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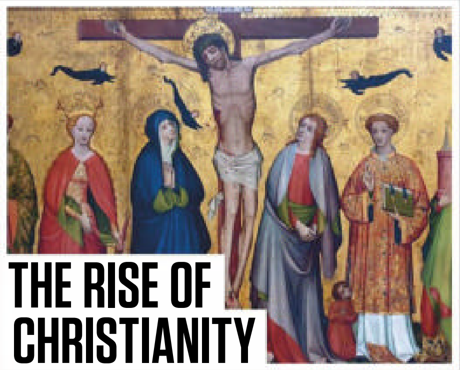

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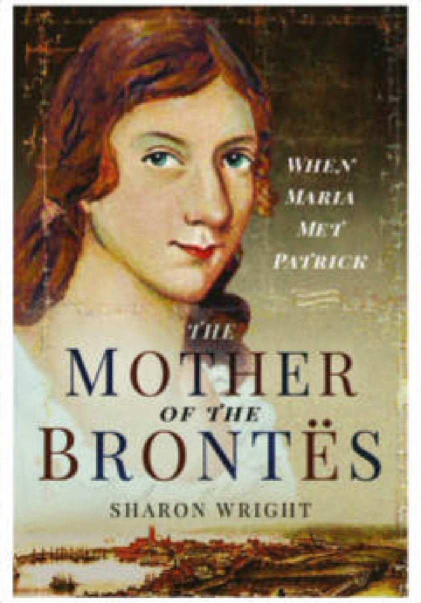
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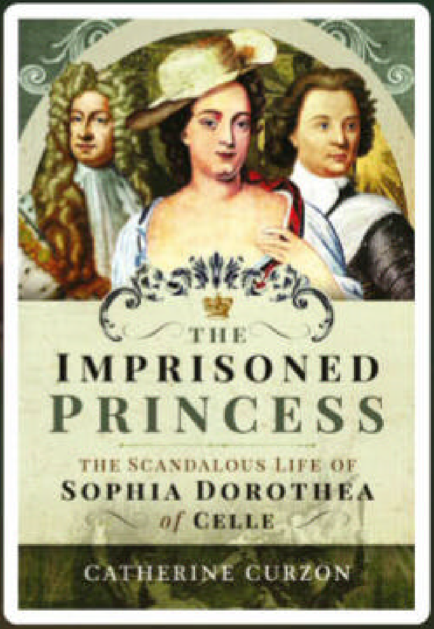
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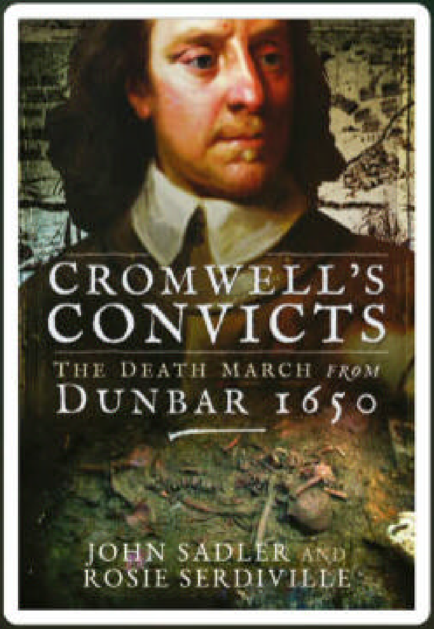
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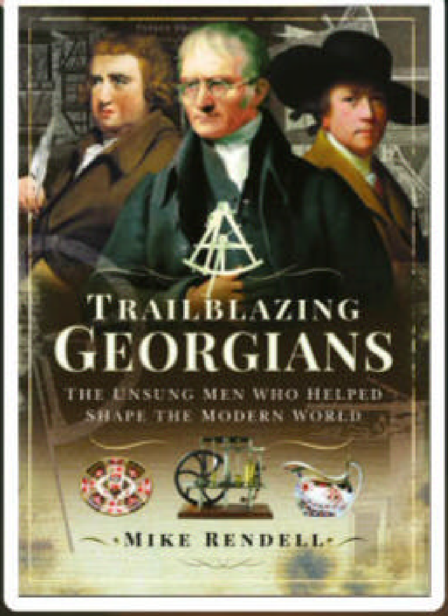
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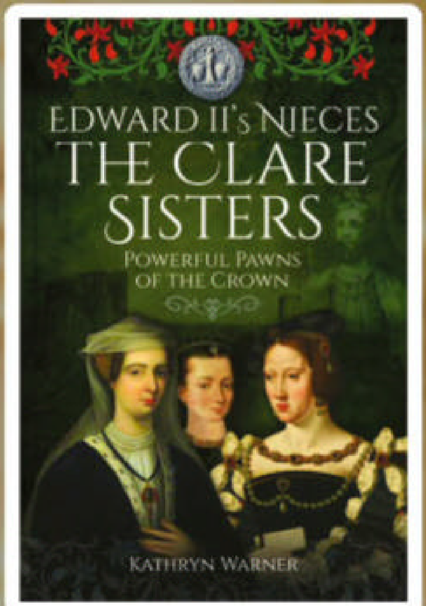
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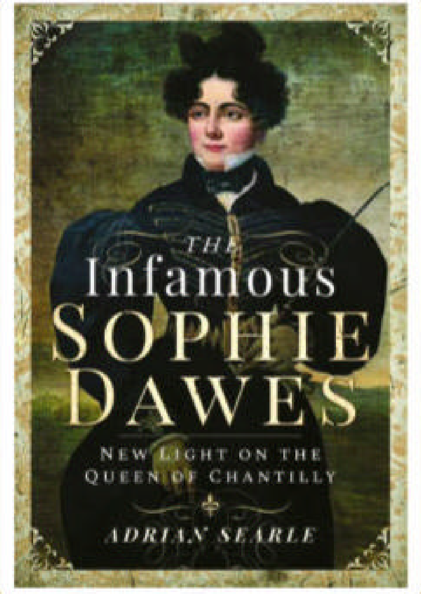
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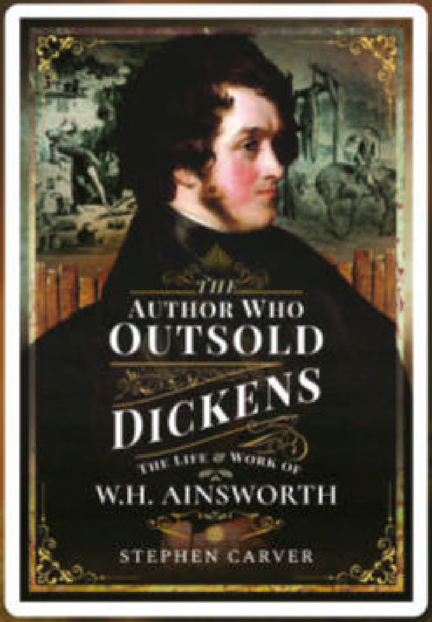
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British and American service people celebrated on the streets of London as the war in Europe officially came to an end

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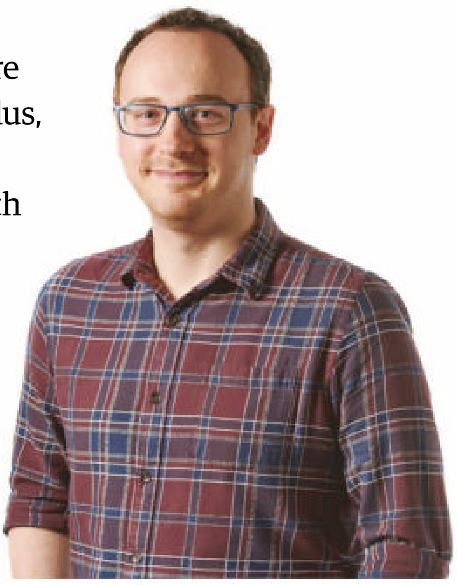
# Welcome

I must confess, I get oddly emotional looking at photos of VE Day celebrations. I imagine the sense of relief they must have felt having survived the war, the sense of triumph they must have felt for having emerged the victors and the sense of sadness that would linger on knowing what victory had cost. I look at all these young faces, their futures finally looking clear and open before them, and feel immensely happy for them. I also know that for all there was to celebrate there were still many hardships still to overcome.

To mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day on 8 May we wanted to delve into as many aspects of the end of the war as possible, so we invited Peter Caddick-Adams to discuss the last months of the conflict, Julie Summers to explore life on the home front, Richard Toye to offer Churchill's perspective and Keith Lowe to break down the (often still tragic and tumultuous) aftermath across Europe. VE Day was a time of rejoicing, but the war wasn't over and there were new conflicts still to resolve. I'm delighted to have so many esteemed experts offering their insight this issue.

We're also hoping to get your insight. Turn to page 54 and you'll find details for our Reader Survey, with which we hope to shape the future of **All About History**. Plus, you'll be entered into a draw to win £500-worth of history books. We'd love to hear from you, so please go to bit.ly/AAH2020 to take part.



**Jonathan Gordon**
Editor

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# Victory In Europe

Experts explore the final months of the war and the celebrations that followed

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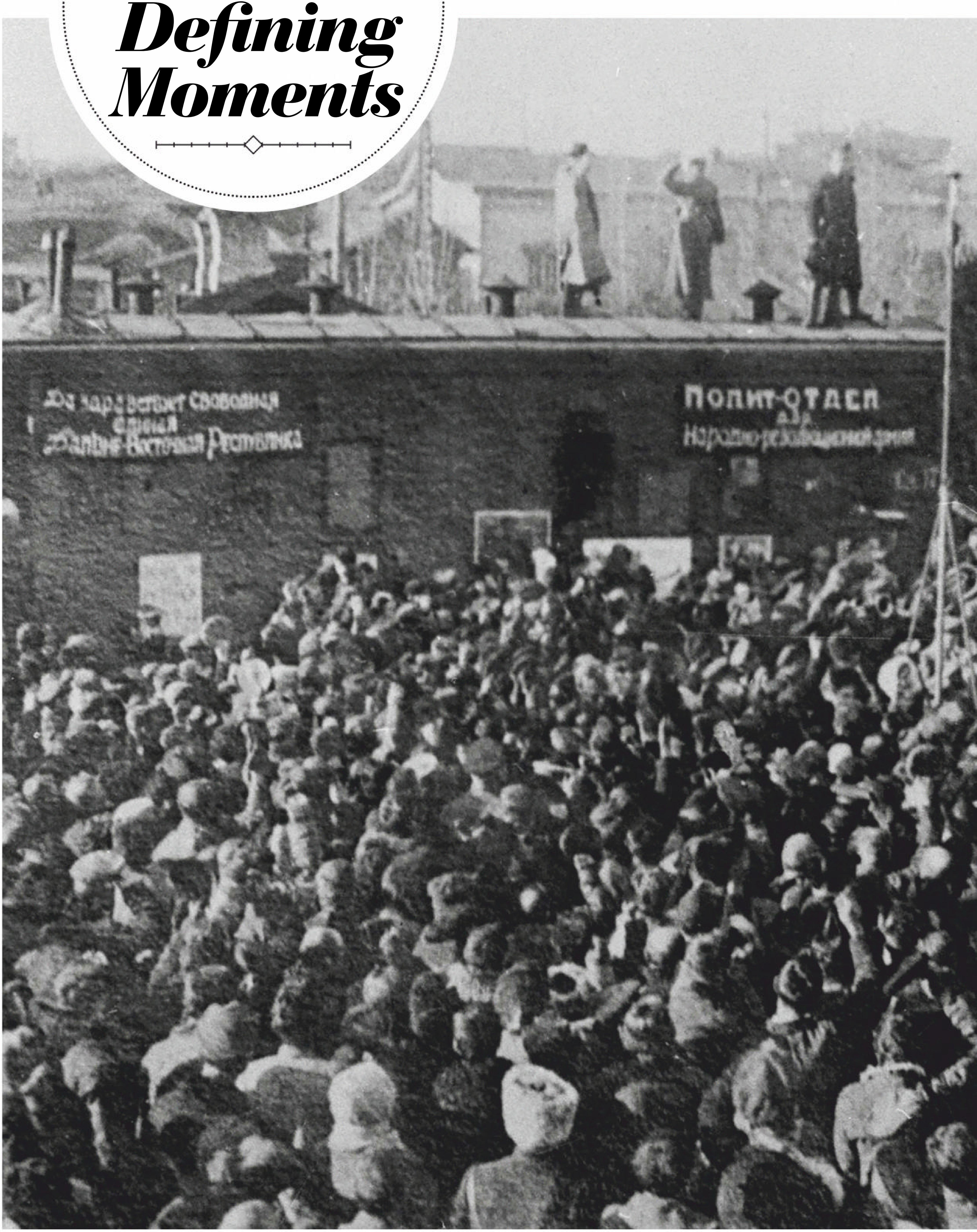
# Defining Moments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Земля и воля.

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1920

## DECLARATION OF THE FAR EASTERN REPUBLIC

The Far Eastern Republic (sometimes called the Chita Republic) was formed in 1920 in eastern Siberia, but the nominally independent state only lasted two years. Originally envisaged as a buffer state between the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic and the territories owned by Japan, the republic was beset by constant outbreaks of violence. An attempted coup failed in 1922, leading to the end of the Far Eastern Republic as the Red Army swept into the region and took control. The republic was dissolved on 15 November and all power was transferred to the Bolshevik government.

1985

# NEW COKE LAUNCHES

By 1985, The Coca-Cola Company had been losing market share to its fierce rival Pepsi. While Diet Coke was popular with health-conscious Baby Boomers, younger drinkers preferred the sweeter-tasting Pepsi to Coke. In response, the original formula was replaced with New Coke in April 1985, but it proved to be incredibly unpopular. After 77 days, production of the original recipe resumed and was marketed as Coca-Cola Classic. New Coke continued to be made, but its sales were miniscule. Despite this fiasco, The Coca-Cola Company saw a significant increase in profits.

GREAT NEW TASTE!
BETTER THAN EVER.

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ACKERLEY
NEW!
Coke
Trade-mark ®
Coca-Cola
Caffeine Free
Coke

NASA
APOLLO XIII
APOLLO 13

© Alamy

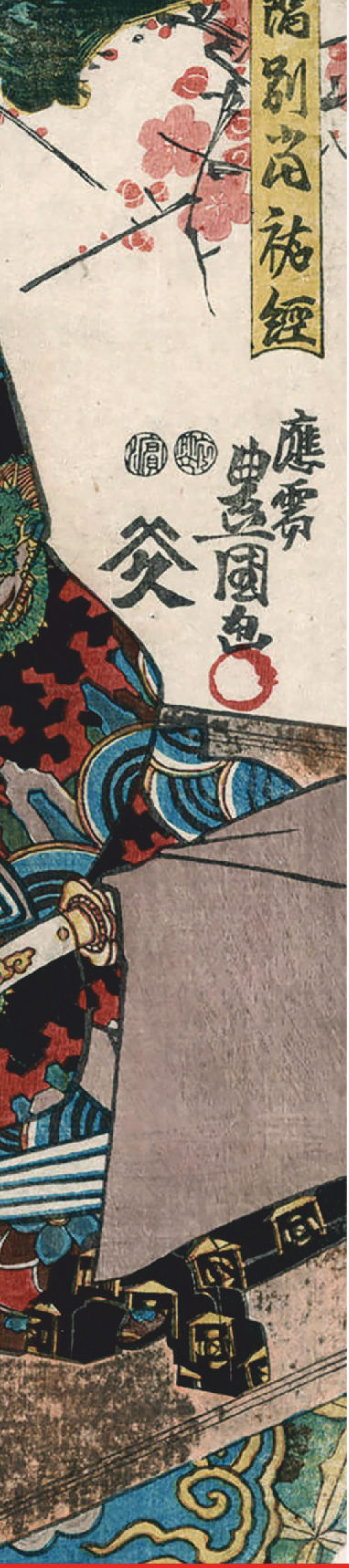
1970

# APOLLO 13

On April 11 1970 the third mission to land men on the moon launched from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Crewed by astronauts Jim Lovell, Fred Haise and Jack Swigert, it quickly became a fight for survival. On 13 April Apollo 13's oxygen tank exploded, forcing the crew to abort the mission and attempt to return to Earth. For several days they endured a number of terrifying situations, including a lack of water, limited power and the danger of carbon dioxide poisoning, before landing in the sea on the 17 April. This photo shows the crew being honoured by President Nixon the day after their landing.

© Alamy

> “Bushido is realised in the presence of death. This means choosing death whenever there is a choice between life and death. There is no other reasoning”
>
> Yamamoto Tsunetomo, *Hagakure: The Book Of The Samurai*



# ALL ABOUT FEUDAL JAPAN

Exploring the age of the shōgun in Japan and the cultural contribution from this rich period of history

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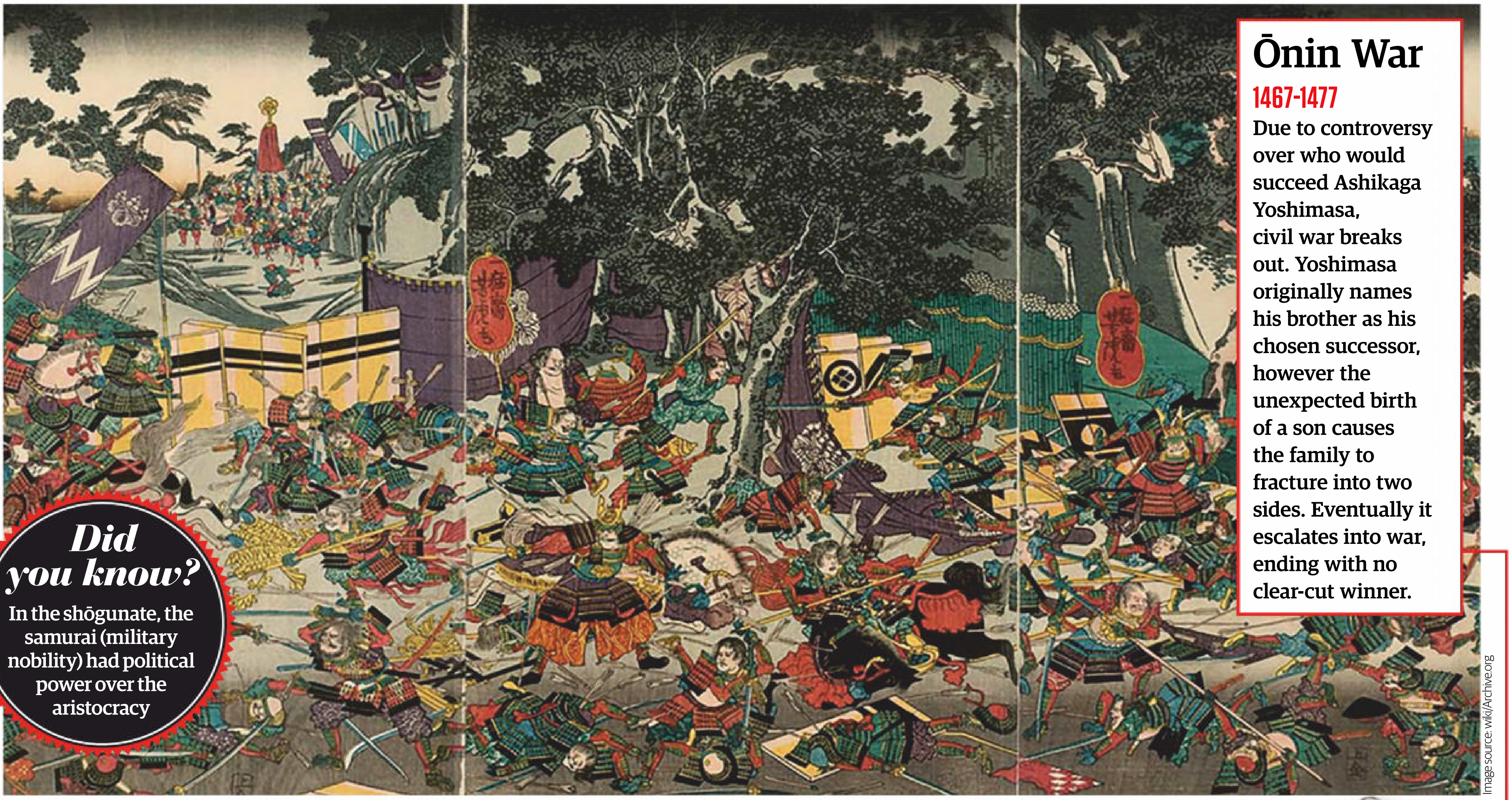
Written by Jessica Leggett, Callum McKelvie, David Crookes

# Japanese feudal era



## Ōnin War

1467-1477

Due to controversy over who would succeed Ashikaga Yoshimasa, civil war breaks out. Yoshimasa originally names his brother as his chosen successor, however the unexpected birth of a son causes the family to fracture into two sides. Eventually it escalates into war, ending with no clear-cut winner.

### Did you know?

In the shōgunate, the samurai (military nobility) had political power over the aristocracy

Image source: wiki/Archive.org

### MINAMOTO YORITOMO BEGINS THE KAMAKURA PERIOD 1192

After winning the Gempei War (between the Taira and Minamoto clans) Minamoto Yoritomo establishes the feudal military government: the Kamakura Shōgunate.

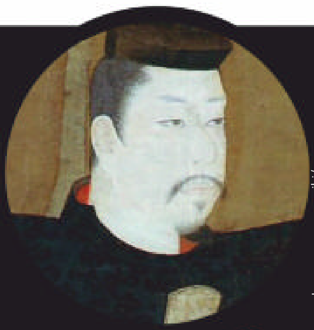


Image source: wiki/ Fujiwara No Takanobu

### WOKOU PIRATES BECOME RAMPANT 1350

Raids from pirates become particularly fierce. Attempts are made to fight back, including the Ōei invasion of 1419. General Zhu Wan becomes known for his fierce stance against the pirates.

### SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN COURTS REUNITED 1392

After being split between the Southern Court (four emperors who claimed sovereignty) and the Northern Court (six pretenders) an agreement is reached for reunification.

Image source: wiki/David Luizo

1192 1274 1333 1457

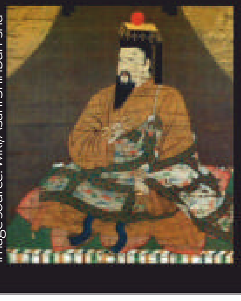


Image source: wiki/Asahi Shinbun-sha

### KEMMU RESTORATION 1333

Emperor Go-Daigo restores imperial power, bringing back a civilian government after a century and a half of military rule in Japan. But the restoration fails and is replaced with the Ashikaga Shōgunate.

### JINNO SHOTOKI WRITTEN 1341

Kitabatake Chikafusa writes the *Jinnō Shōtōki*, mostly as an attempt to justify the importance of an emperor. This book formalises the transition from ruler to mystical symbol.

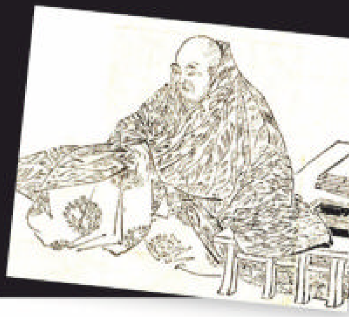


Image source: wiki/Kikuchi Yosai

### CONSTRUCTION OF EDO CASTLE 1457

A flatland castle built by Ōta Dōkan, it's one of the first foundations of what would become modern-day Tokyo.

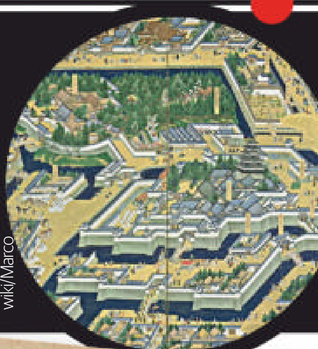


Image source: wiki/Marco

## First Mongol invasion of Japan 1274

Wishing Japan to become a vassal state, Kublai Khan dispatches emissaries requesting tribute. However, when the emissaries return time and time again empty handed the Khan declares war. The Mongolian army makes significant progress but is defeated with heavy losses at the Battle of Torikai-Gata. A second invasion is defeated in 1281.

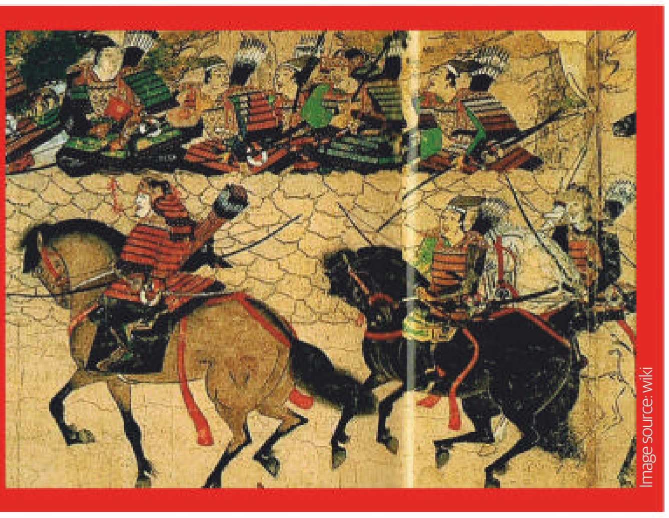


Image source: wiki

## Muromachi period 1338

Overthrowing the Kemmu Restoration, Ashikaga Takauji proclaims himself shōgun, beginning the Muromachi period. Takauji is known for his lack of fear, his mercy and generosity to those below him. In 1467, during the Ōnin War the shōgunate has all but collapsed.

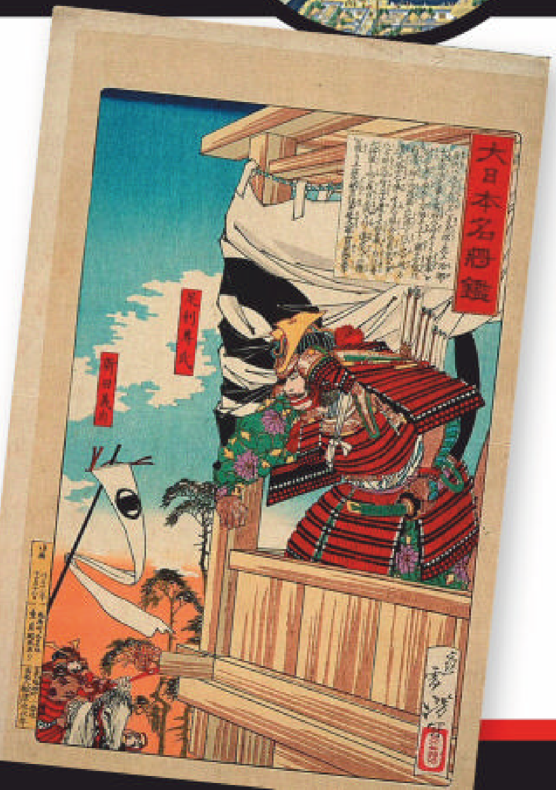


Image source: wiki/ Tsukioka Yoshitoshi

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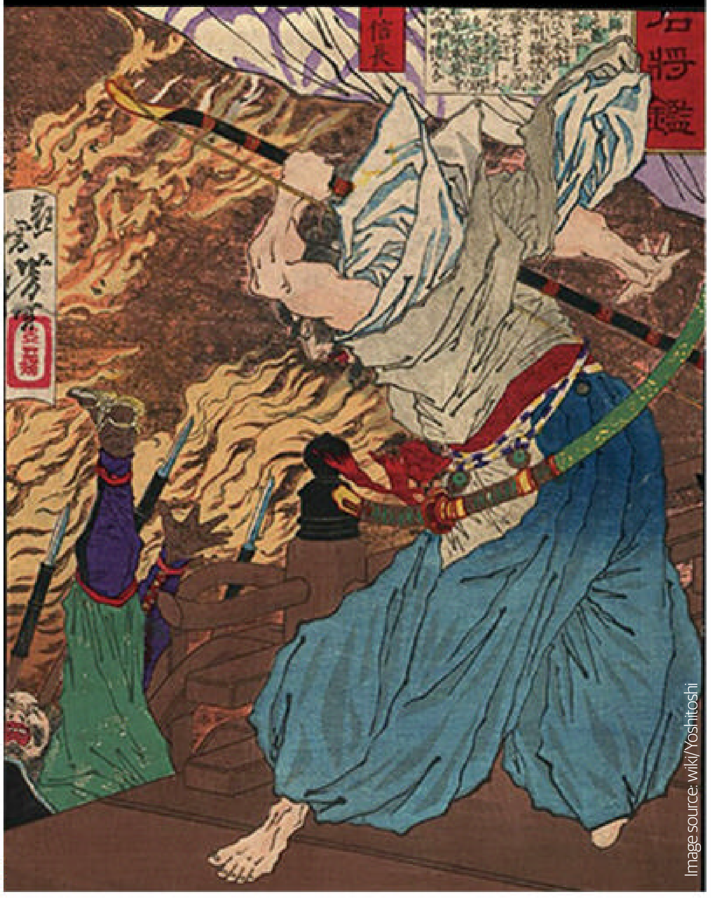
## Battle of Miyajima 1551

In 1551 Sue Harukata rebels against his lord Ōuchi Yoshitaka. Mōri Motonari, a vassal of the Ōuchi clan, seeks vengeance and the two forces clash on the island Miyajima. The island is a shrine, with no birth or death allowed, and so is extensively cleansed afterwards.

## Honno-ji incident 1582

At Honno-ji temple in Kyoto, Oda Nobunaga is surrounded only by officials and servants. The Akechi army marches on the temple in a coup. Unable to repel the attackers, Nobunaga commits suicide and his young page sets fire to the temple. Nobunaga's remains are never found.



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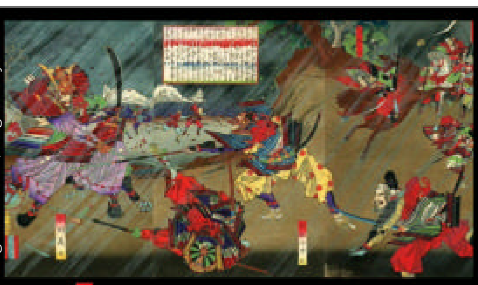

Image source: wiki/Utagawa Toyonobu

## BATTLE OF OKEHAZAMA 1560

Oda Nobunaga defeats Imagawa Yoshimoto and establishes himself as one of the leading warlords, with many samurai pledging allegiance to him.

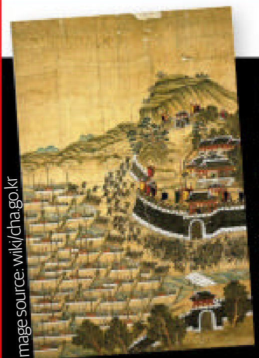

Image source: wiki/cha.go.kr

## INVASION OF KOREA 1592

Toyotomi Hideyoshi attempts to conquer the Korean Peninsula and China, however the invasion fails and results in a stalemate. A second invasion begins in 1597, but this too ends in failure.

## BEGINNING OF THE EDO PERIOD 1603

Tokugawa shōgunate officially founds the Edo period following the Battle of Sekigahara in 1600, and takes three years to consolidate his power.

1543

1582

1603

## BATTLE OF YAMAZAKI 1582

Toyotomi Hideyoshi meets Akechi Mitsuhide (who rebelled against Oda Nobunga) in battle, having allied himself with the Mōri clan, and defeats him. Hideyoshi then takes control himself.

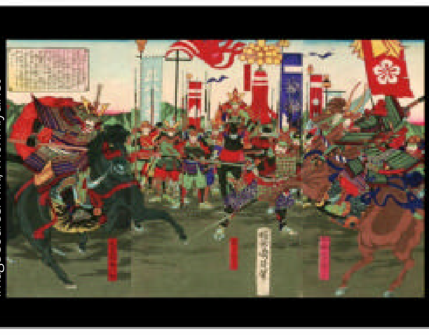

Image source: wiki/ morimiya.net

## INVASION OF SHIKOKU 1585

Toyotomi Hideyoshi invades the island of Shikoku, the smallest of Japan's main islands, and seizes it from rival warlord Chōsokabe Motochika.

## SAN FELIPE INCIDENT 1596

The Spanish ship San Felipe is shipwrecked on the Japanese island of Shikoku. The Japanese become suspicious and Christian missionaries in Japan are accused of being 'fifth columnists' – 26 are crucified.

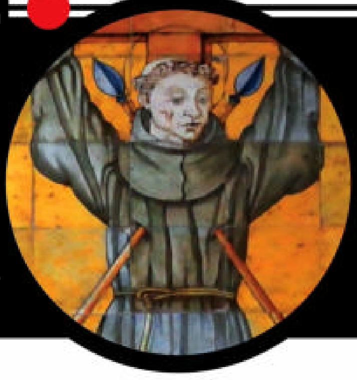

Image source: wiki/ retabloceramico.net

## Nanban trade 1543

The first Europeans arrive in Japan and establish a long-distance trade route. This begins with a group of Portuguese explorers, missionaries and merchants who introduce refined sugar, galleon-style ship building, Christianity and, of course, firearms.

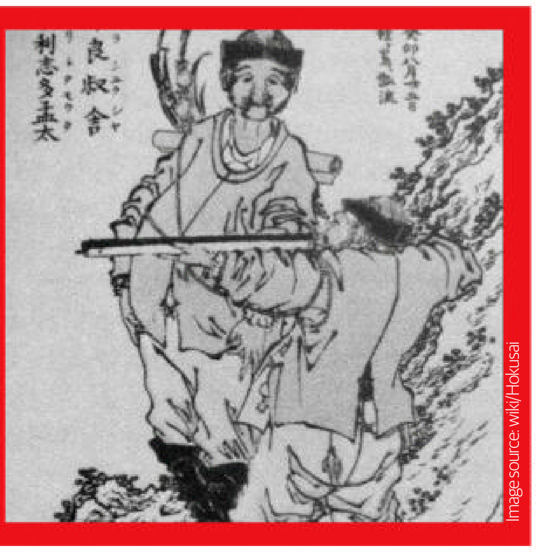

Image source: wiki/Hokusai

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## Construction of Osaka Castle 1586

Toyotomi Hideyoshi commences the building of Ōsaka Castle. Modelled after his predecessor Oda Nobunaga's headquarters, Azuchi Castle, he seeks to surpass it. The castle features a five-storey main tower, with gold leaf on the sides. Having been reconstructed, it stands to this day.

### *Did you know?*

A samurai had to be prepared to commit seppuku - suicide by disembowelment with a sword

INSIDE HISTORY

# HIMEJI CASTLE

## HIMEJI, JAPAN

Himeji Castle is a Japanese National Treasure as well as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It's also one of Japan's 12 original castles, with the current complex completed in 1618 and widely considered to be a fine example of early 17th century Japanese castle architecture.

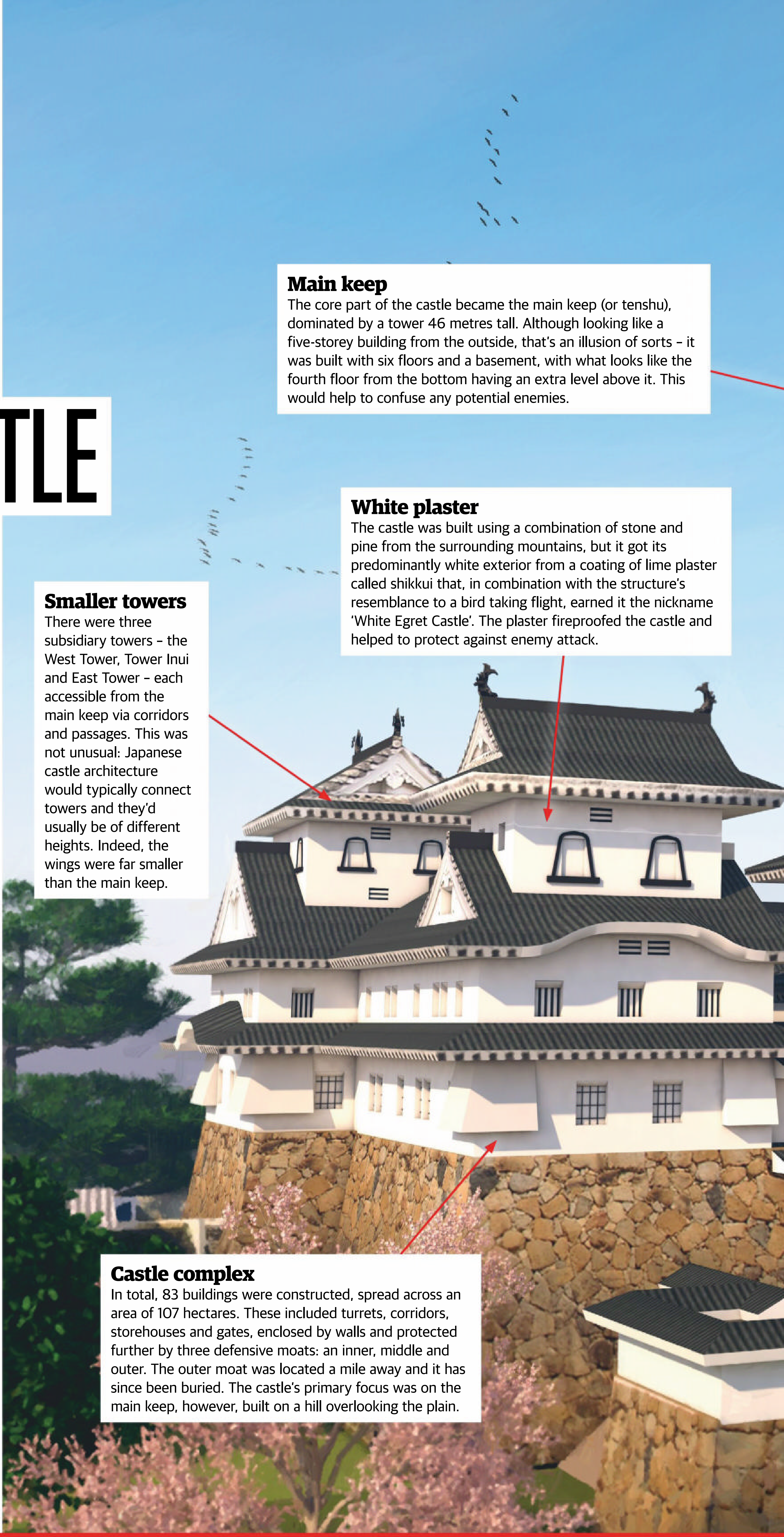
Ikeda Terumasa was the brains behind what we see today. As the shōgun of west Japan and the son-in-law of the Japanese warrior and statesman Tokugawa Ieyasu, he was handed the castle in 1600 as a reward for his support in the Battle of Sekigahara. Within a year, he'd ordered its demolition and a new structure was commissioned to take its place.

By 1609, the new castle was completed, although additions were made towards the end of the following decade. The end result was on a much grander scale than the 16th century structure it had replaced. It was also a far cry from the fortified building that originally occupied the site in 1333, for here was a complex of 83 buildings (one of which towered over the rest), connected by winding paths and constructed with defence in mind.

There were three moats, walls that were up to 26 metres high and many heavily fortified gates in unexpected places that would slow any advancing army. Concerted attempts were also made to ensure that the enemy would have to twist and turn if they were to make their way towards the main tower, with the steep, narrow paths being deliberately confusing.

As much attention was paid to the castle's elegantly balanced appearance, too. The multiple roof layers were a mix of the curved and the triangular, and the protective white plaster adorning the walls ensured the buildings stood proud. Even so, the castle has not always been appreciated and in the late-19th century it was on the verge of being demolished and replaced with army barracks.

It has survived earthquakes and the Second World War, however, and the castle remains intact. Today it's Japan's most-visited castle and a recent renovation means it's back to its best.

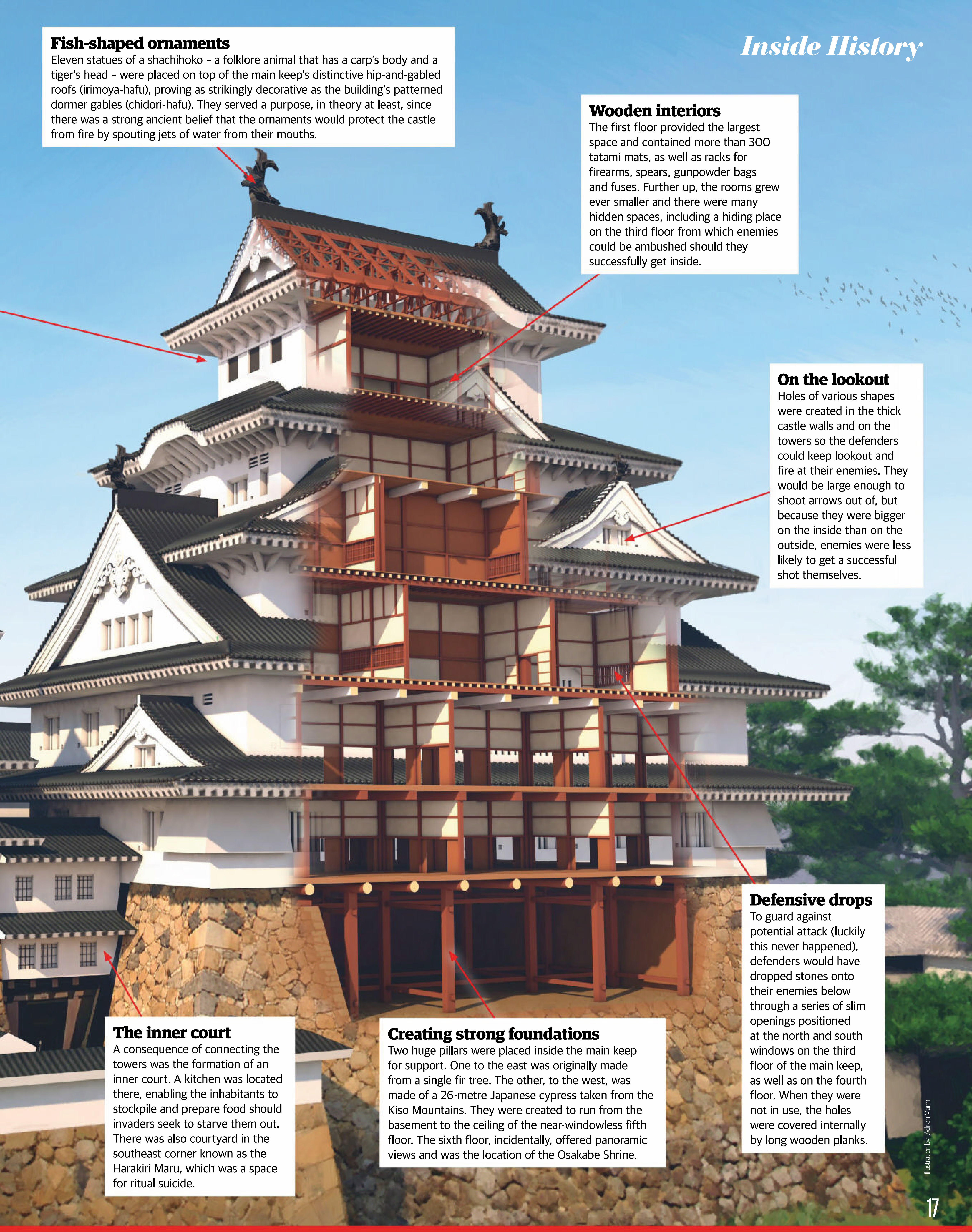


**Main keep**
The core part of the castle became the main keep (or tenshu), dominated by a tower 46 metres tall. Although looking like a five-storey building from the outside, that's an illusion of sorts – it was built with six floors and a basement, with what looks like the fourth floor from the bottom having an extra level above it. This would help to confuse any potential enemies.

**White plaster**
The castle was built using a combination of stone and pine from the surrounding mountains, but it got its predominantly white exterior from a coating of lime plaster called shikkui that, in combination with the structure's resemblance to a bird taking flight, earned it the nickname 'White Egret Castle'. The plaster fireproofed the castle and helped to protect against enemy attack.

**Smaller towers**
There were three subsidiary towers – the West Tower, Tower Inui and East Tower – each accessible from the main keep via corridors and passages. This was not unusual: Japanese castle architecture would typically connect towers and they'd usually be of different heights. Indeed, the wings were far smaller than the main keep.

**Castle complex**
In total, 83 buildings were constructed, spread across an area of 107 hectares. These included turrets, corridors, storehouses and gates, enclosed by walls and protected further by three defensive moats: an inner, middle and outer. The outer moat was located a mile away and it has since been buried. The castle's primary focus was on the main keep, however, built on a hill overlooking the plain.



### Fish-shaped ornaments

Eleven statues of a shachihoko – a folklore animal that has a carp's body and a tiger's head – were placed on top of the main keep's distinctive hip-and-gabled roofs (irimoya-hafu), proving as strikingly decorative as the building's patterned dormer gables (chidori-hafu). They served a purpose, in theory at least, since there was a strong ancient belief that the ornaments would protect the castle from fire by spouting jets of water from their mouths.

### Wooden interiors

The first floor provided the largest space and contained more than 300 tatami mats, as well as racks for firearms, spears, gunpowder bags and fuses. Further up, the rooms grew ever smaller and there were many hidden spaces, including a hiding place on the third floor from which enemies could be ambushed should they successfully get inside.

### On the lookout

Holes of various shapes were created in the thick castle walls and on the towers so the defenders could keep lookout and fire at their enemies. They would be large enough to shoot arrows out of, but because they were bigger on the inside than on the outside, enemies were less likely to get a successful shot themselves.

### Defensive drops

To guard against potential attack (luckily this never happened), defenders would have dropped stones onto their enemies below through a series of slim openings positioned at the north and south windows on the third floor of the main keep, as well as on the fourth floor. When they were not in use, the holes were covered internally by long wooden planks.

### The inner court

A consequence of connecting the towers was the formation of an inner court. A kitchen was located there, enabling the inhabitants to stockpile and prepare food should invaders seek to starve them out. There was also courtyard in the southeast corner known as the Harakiri Maru, which was a space for ritual suicide.

### Creating strong foundations

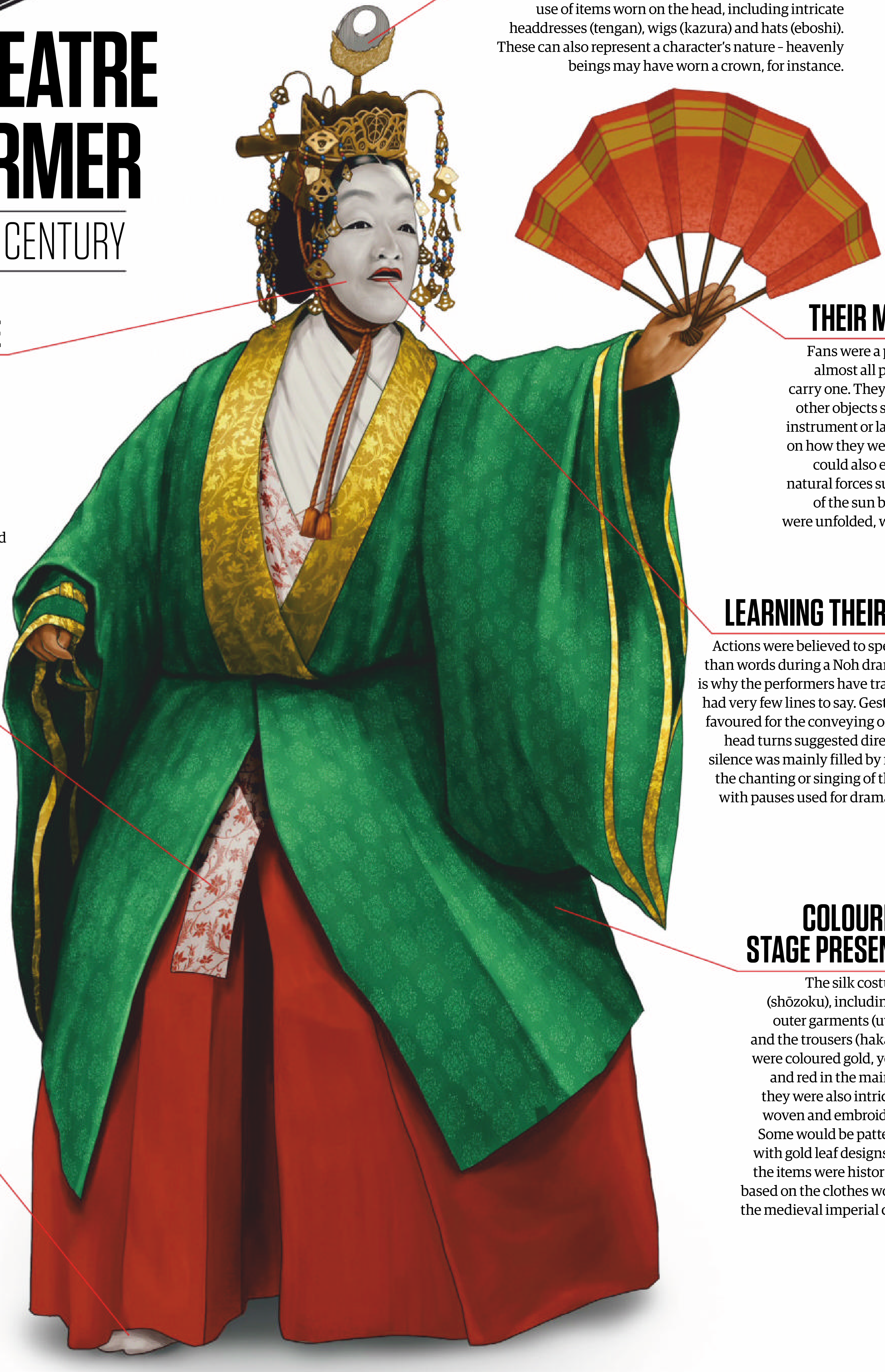
Two huge pillars were placed inside the main keep for support. One to the east was originally made from a single fir tree. The other, to the west, was made of a 26-metre Japanese cypress taken from the Kiso Mountains. They were created to run from the basement to the ceiling of the near-windowless fifth floor. The sixth floor, incidentally, offered panoramic views and was the location of the Osakabe Shrine.

Illustration by: Adrian Mann

# THE *Anatomy of*

# NOH THEATRE PERFORMER

## JAPAN, 14TH CENTURY



### HEAD FOR PERFORMING

Noh actors have, historically, been male, although women have also performed since the 1940s. One way to show gender and social status has been the use of items worn on the head, including intricate headdresses (tengan), wigs (kazura) and hats (eboshi). These can also represent a character's nature – heavenly beings may have worn a crown, for instance.

### FACING THE AUDIENCE

Masks carved from blocks of Japanese cypress were worn by a Noh drama's main performers to represent characters such as demons and monks, and genders of various ages. Treated with reverence and believed to be inherently spiritual, some of the 60 or so original types contained hidden emotions that were revealed by tilting the head so the mask captured light and shadows.

### THEIR MANY FANS

Fans were a popular prop and almost all performers would carry one. They could symbolise other objects such as a weapon, instrument or lantern depending on how they were handled. They could also express actions or natural forces such as the setting of the sun by the extent they were unfolded, waved or pointed.

### LEARNING THEIR LINES

Actions were believed to speak louder than words during a Noh drama, which is why the performers have traditionally had very few lines to say. Gestures were favoured for the conveying of emotion, head turns suggested direction, and silence was mainly filled by music and the chanting or singing of the chorus, with pauses used for dramatic effect.

### BULK UP

Although actors originally wore their everyday clothes during a performance, their costumes became more elaborate, regardless of their on-stage role. The performers – whether the principal actor (shite), secondary actor (waki) or companion (tsure) – would also wear items in multiple layers, starting with the inner garments (kisuke), giving them a bulky appearance.

### COLOURFUL STAGE PRESENCE

The silk costumes (shōzoku), including the outer garments (uwagi) and the trousers (hakama), were coloured gold, yellow and red in the main and they were also intricately woven and embroidered. Some would be patterned with gold leaf designs, and the items were historically based on the clothes worn at the medieval imperial court.

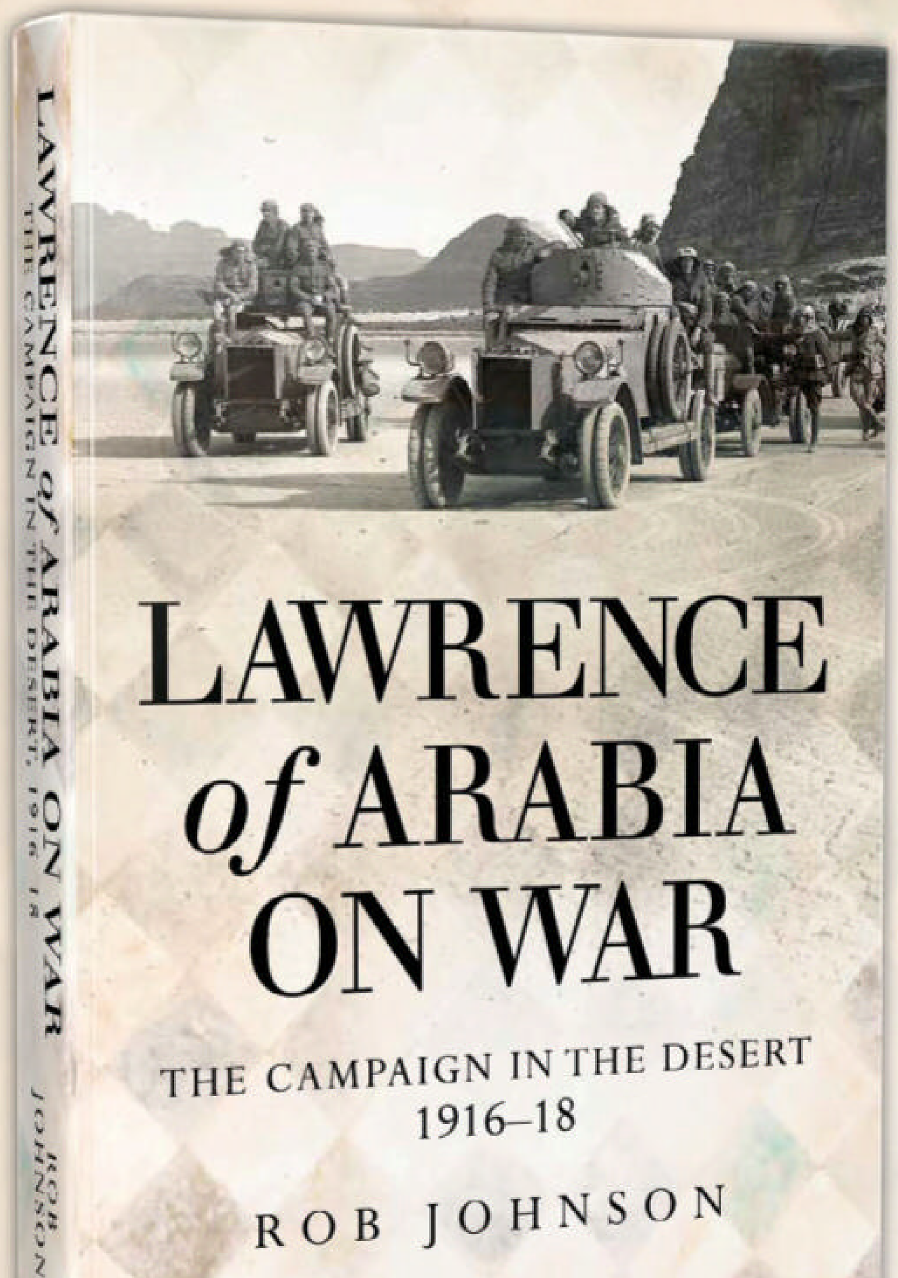
### SLIDE AWAY

Performers would wear stockings rather than shoes, which would assist in the art of suri-ashi, or 'sliding feet'. The actors would use slow, controlled movements to glide their feet across the stage in alternating sequences, keeping their heels on the floor. The fluidity of a performance has always been highly choreographed.

Illustration by: Kevin McGivern

LAWRENCE
*of* ARABIA ON WAR

THE CAMPAIGN IN THE DESERT
1916–18



*by* ROB JOHNSON

Lawrence of Arabia is one of the most iconic figures of the First World War, seen by many as a heroic and romantic guerrilla leader in a period of savage and deeply impersonal industrial warfare. While Lawrence himself has been the subject of many biographies, the context of his war in the desert, and his ideas on war itself, are less well known.

*Lawrence of Arabia on War* is a study of those ideas, and of his campaign of irregular warfare. It examines the peace settlement he participated in, analyses how other military writers made use of his ideas, and describes the ways in which his legacy has informed and inspired those partnering and mentoring local forces today.

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# Hall of Fame

# FAMOUS WARRIORS

Many samurai, outlaws and military leaders are revered to this day for their exploits

## BENKEI 1155-1189

A warrior monk, Benkei has entered popular Japanese legend and there are many stories about his life and exploits. When he was born he's said to have had wild teeth and long hair like a demon, and when he was 17 he was said to be over two-metres tall. He spent many years working for Minamoto Yoshitsune, famously being killed defending him. Legend has it his dead body, riddled with arrows, was still standing as Minamoto Yoritomo's forces attacked.

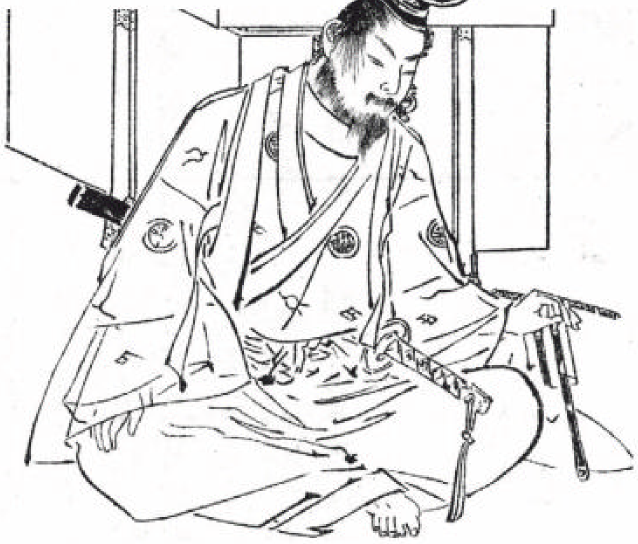


Image source: wiki/Kikuchi-Yosai

美勇水滸傳
宮本武藏政名

Image source: wiki/Los Angeles Museum of Art

## MINAMOTO YOSHITSUNE

1159-1189

A military commander of the Minamoto clan, Yoshitsune led a series of decisive battles during the Gempei War and was integral in helping his half-brother Yoritomo consolidate power. He would eventually turn against Yorimoto, incurring his wrath. Yoshitsune was betrayed but managed to hold back the invading warriors until he was forced to commit seppuku. He was then decapitated, his head preserved in sake and sent to Yorimoto.

## ASHIKAGA TADAYOSHI

1306-1352

**The well-known military tactician is considered by some to have been a genius on the battlefield. He's thought to have engineered all the major victories of his brother Ashikaga Takauji, who despite being de facto ruler proved to be practically useless at the necessary administrative tasks. He eventually entered into a feud with his brother when Takauji gave a key role to a samurai Tadayoshi despised. Tadayoshi joined his brother's enemies before he died, some suspect from poisoning.**

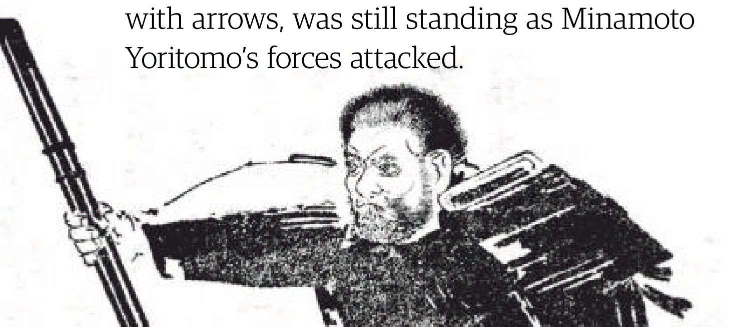


Image source: wiki/Kikuchi-Yosai

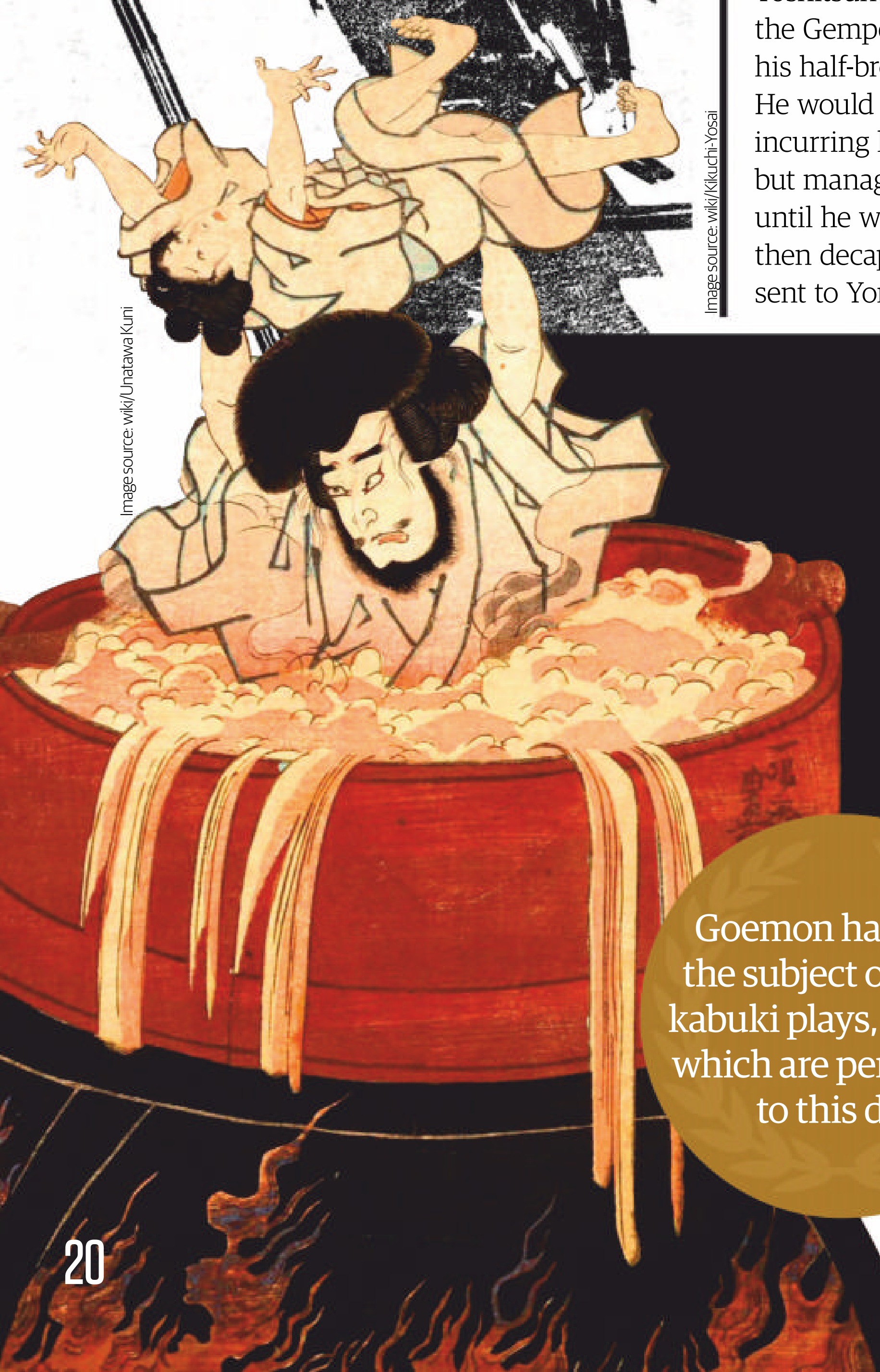


Image source: wiki/Unatawa Kuni

## ISHIKAWA GOEMON

1558-1594

**A famous outlaw hero, Goemon is similar to Robin Hood in that he stole from the rich and gave to the poor. Like many of the figures featured here, there is much dispute between what is fact and what is folklore. Upon capture, he and his son were boiled alive in a public execution, during which Goeman held his son above the water in defiance of his enemies. Before his death, he wrote a famous poem stating there'd always be thieves.**

Goemon has been the subject of many kabuki plays, some of which are performed to this day

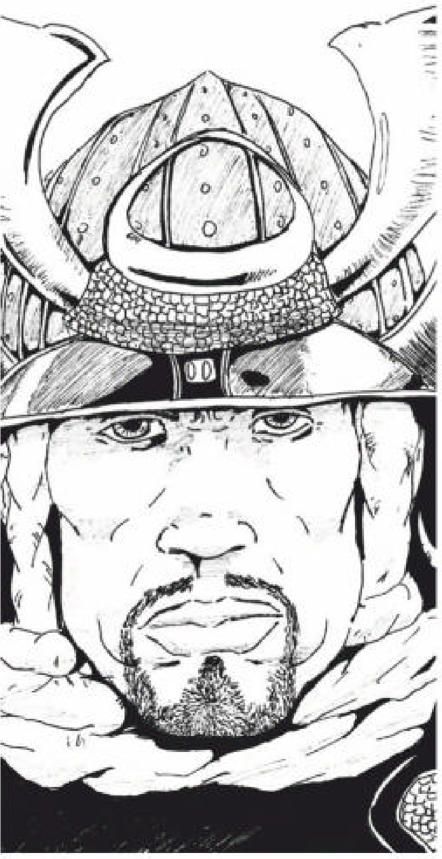


Image source: wiki/Kenneth Trotter

## YASUKE

C.1530-C.1580

A servant or slave of African origin, Yasuke was possibly brought to Japan by a Portuguese trading vessel. At some point, he entered the service of Oda Nobunaga and became Nobunga's personal weapon bearer. He was given his own lodgings and a short ceremonial katana. Yasuke would have been present at Nobunaga's forced suicide, with accounts saying that he bravely fought to hold back the attackers before escaping.

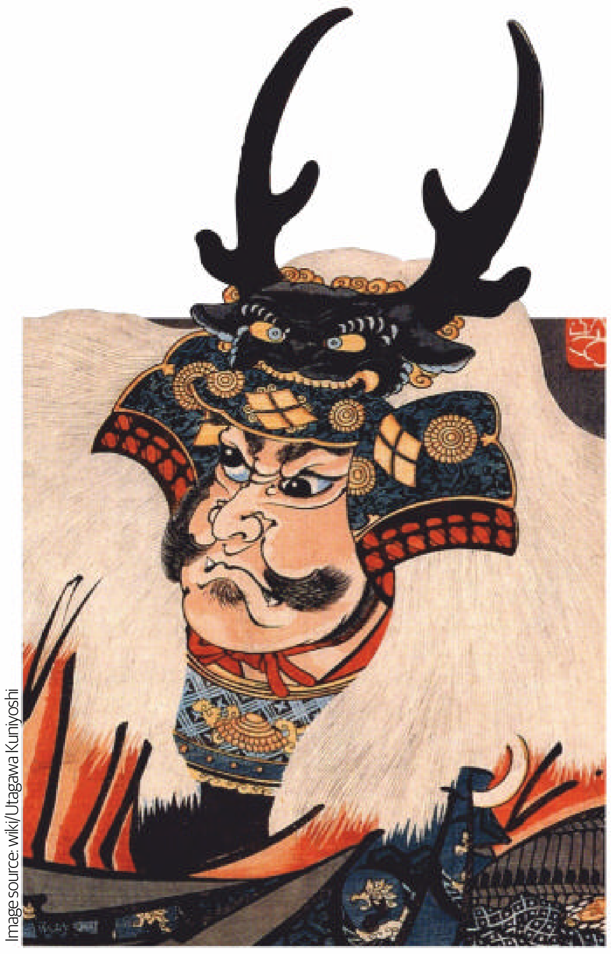


Image source: wiki/Utagawa Kuniyoshi

## TAKEDA SHINGEN

1521-1573

The fierce leader of the Takeda clan, Shingen had a ruthless reputation. At the early age of 15 he helped his father win the Battle of Un no Kuchi. It would be a mere four years later, when he was 19, that he would rebel against his father and take control of the clan. Following this he led many legendary campaigns, his feud with Uesugi Kenshin of Echigo in particular was infamous. One story has Kenshin's forces clearing a path through the battlefield so the two men could engage in single combat. His influence was not purely military, however, he also ordered the damming of the Fuji River - one of the major domestic projects of the time.

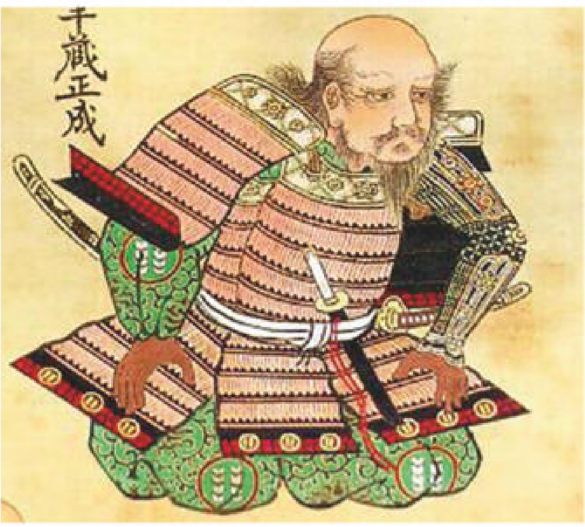


Image source: wiki

## HATTORI HANZŌ

1542-1596

Hattori Hanzō became a samurai at 18, gaining his first battlefield experience a mere two years later when he led 60 ninja on a daring night-time raid into Udo Castle. Other legendary missions include rescuing his clan leader's daughters from enemy hostage takers and laying siege to Kakegawa Castle. As skilled as he was in battle, he was also an expert tactician and political mover, closely observing how nobles moved in social and political circles. His prowess at stalking and hunting his prey earned him the nickname Oni no Hanzō, meaning 'Demon Hanzo'.

## TOMOE GOZEN

1157-1247

**The leading commander in the Gempei War, Tomoe was famed for her skill with a bow and long sword. She remained loyal to her leader Minamoto no Yoshinaka at the Battle of Awazu. One story states that, commanded to leave the field due to their depleted forces, Gozen reached a compromise, offering to leave only after she had engaged in one final battle to redeem her honour. Riding straight into 30 enemy warriors, she picked the worthiest opponent and promptly beheaded him. She is remembered as a brave and fearless warrior with numerous stories detailing her exploits.**

In 1182 Gozen supposedly commanded a force of 300 samurai to victory against 2,000 enemies

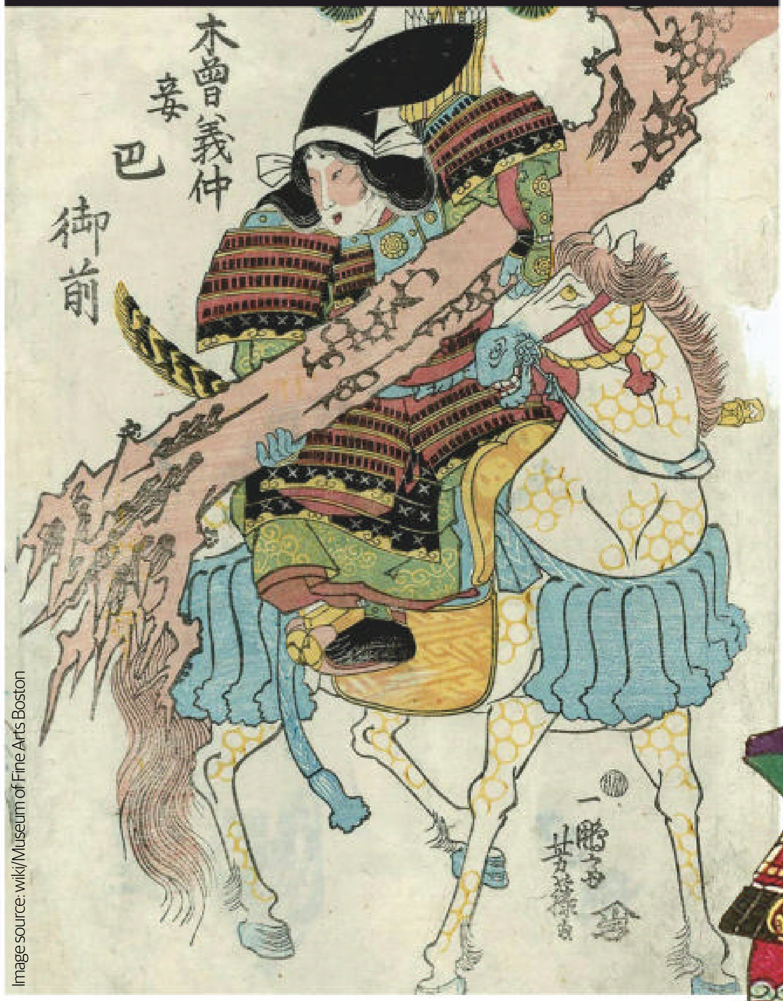


Image source: wiki/Museum of Fine Arts Boston

## TOKUGAWA IEYASU

1543-1616

**Founder of the Edo period and one of three unifiers of Japan, Tokugawa was a famous and feared warrior. As a child he was held hostage by several clans but appears to have been treated well due to his use as a potential future ally. He won the Battle of Sekigahara, one of the most important battles in Japanese history, and developed a reputation as a cautious and wise leader. He was known for having the ability to be both bold and calm, and for his staunch loyalty. However he could be ruthless - ordering the execution of his first wife and oldest son.**

Image source: wiki

## DATE MASAMUNE

1567-1636

Known as the One-Eyed Dragon, Masamune was a regional ruler during the Azuchi-Momoyama and Edo periods. His army had a fierce reputation, wearing black and gold armour while he himself had the emblem of a crescent moon on his helmet. His vicious reputation began when a retainer of his clan named Sadatsuna defected to the Ashina clan. Infuriated, Masamune hunted him down, conquering many lands on his way. He initially refused to serve Hideoyoshi (who was virtually ruler of Japan) and arrived in his best clothes expecting to be executed for his insolence. His bravery was noted and he remained a powerful figure.

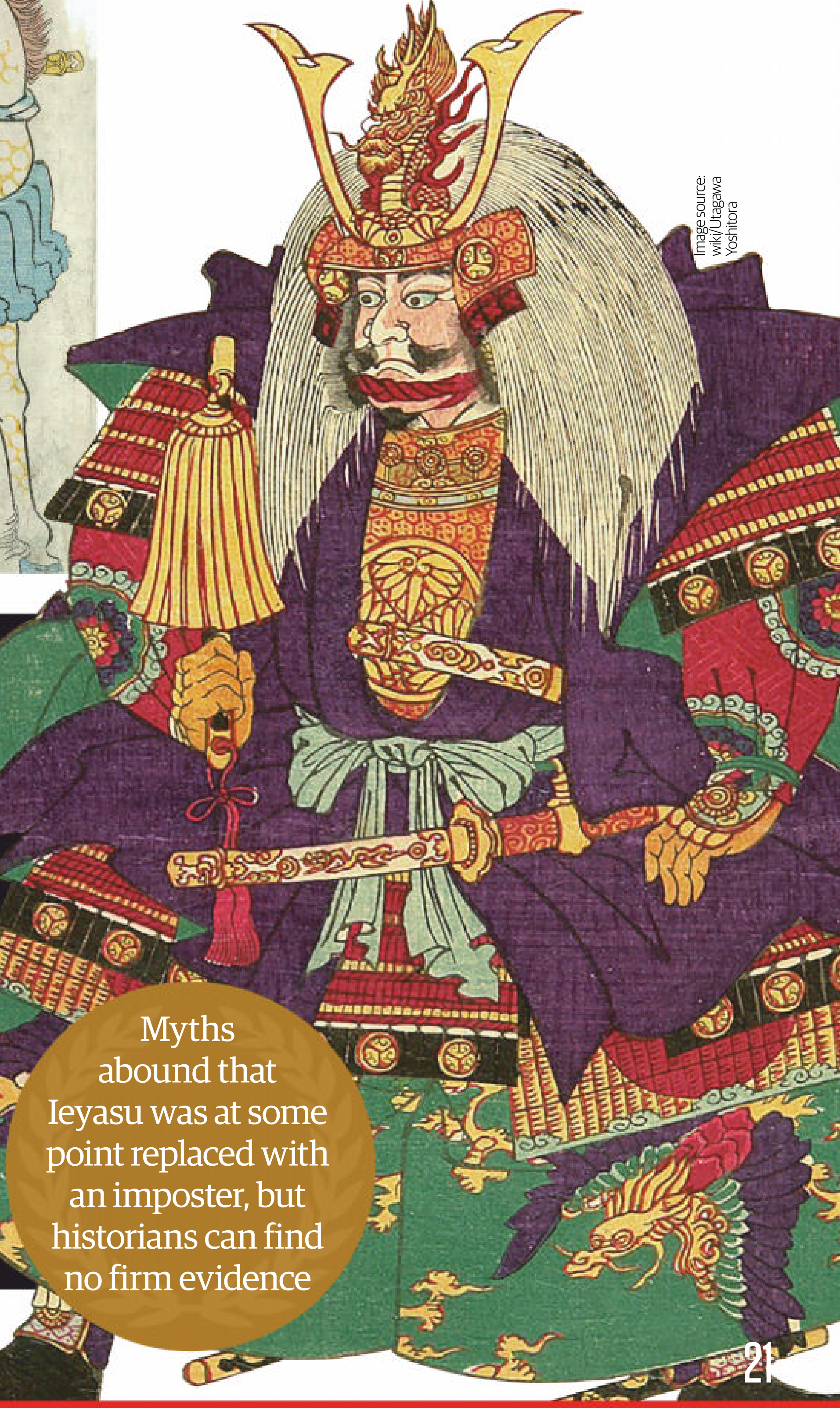


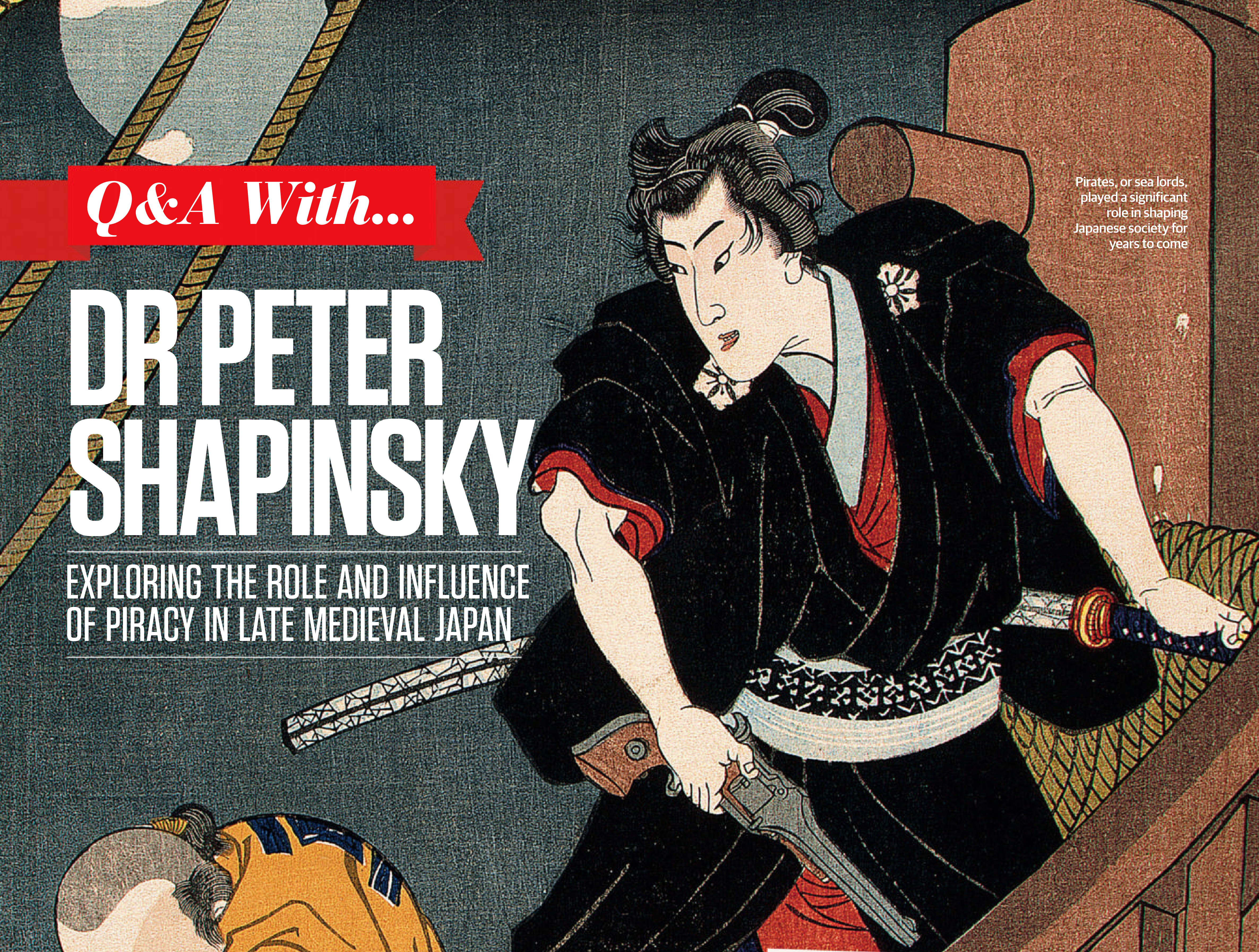
Image source: wiki/Utagawa Yoshitora

Myths abound that Ieyasu was at some point replaced with an imposter, but historians can find no firm evidence

## Q&A With...

# DR PETER SHAPINSKY

## EXPLORING THE ROLE AND INFLUENCE OF PIRACY IN LATE MEDIEVAL JAPAN



Pirates, or sea lords, played a significant role in shaping Japanese society for years to come

Dr Peter Shapinsky is an Associate Professor of History at the University of Illinois Springfield. He has written extensively on medieval and early modern East Asian history, including topics such as Japan, piracy, maritime history, cartography and gender history.

© Getty Images

## Q. WHY DO YOU USE THE TERM SEA LORDS INSTEAD OF PIRATES IN YOUR RESEARCH?

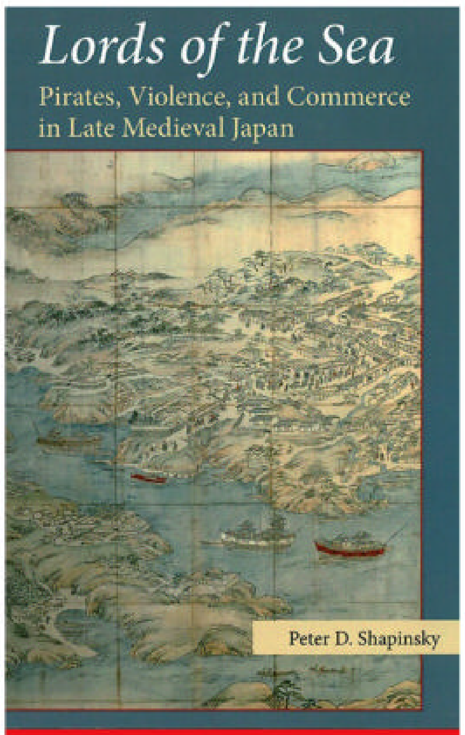
A. Words from East Asia that we translate as 'pirate' represented the interests of land-based states, not mariners themselves. The term sea lord highlights the agency of seafarers in late medieval Japan (c.1300-1600), who exploited their ability to move between lands and cultures. Among their strategies was a choice to cloak themselves in rhetoric redolent of legitimate dominion in Japan while maintaining a distinctly maritime powerbase. In the Seto Inland Sea region, for example, mariners learned to present themselves as warrior lords in order to attract patrons and to administer the array of littoral inhabitants in their domains. These domains consisted entirely of nautical populations, from shipping merchants to salt-makers to boat people. Sea lords devised distinctive practices of sea tenure to demarcate, rule and transform their regions of the sea into territories.

## Q. HOW WERE THESE SEA LORDS DEPICTED BY THOSE ON LAND AND HOW DID THIS COMPARE WITH THE WAY THAT THEY PORTRAYED THEMSELVES?

A. The meaning of pirate shifted across Japan's medieval period from 'sea bandit' to 'maritime mercenary' as the power of the land-based authorities to control the seas waned. In China and Korea, terms for Japanese pirate signified illicit trade and devastating assaults from overseas. 'Pirate' thus also signified the inseparability of commerce and violence in this period. Sea lords exploited such representations, developing reputations as local warrior lords and essential providers of naval services, including protection for domestic and international trade and diplomacy. They transformed perceptions of the medieval seas into autonomous, piratical space that needed to be negotiated with in order to achieve safe passage. In turn, their ability to take on different identities caused the Chinese and Koreans to characterise Japanese pirates as chameleons who changed ethnic characteristics, such as clothes and hair, in contrast to the land-based societies, where identities were stable and ordered.

## Q. WHY WERE PATRONAGES OFFERED TO SEA LORDS AND WHAT WERE THEY EXPECTED TO DO IN RETURN?

A. In late medieval Japan, the land-based ruling authorities – the Imperial family, shōgun, warlords, aristocrats and religious institutions – lacked naval resources of their own. They relied on hiring local maritime magnates for a variety of peaceful and military naval services. Such magnates developed specialized skills in providing such services and exploited patronage to secure recognition as legitimate rulers of maritime territories. Beyond guarding and guiding domestic and international trade and diplomacy, sea-lord bands administered island- and port-based estates to ensure rents were delivered. Over time, they seized control of these territories and contributed to the shift from a tribute-based economy to a commercial one as entrepreneurs in shipping and maritime products. During periods of civil war, they designed warships and tactics, fought battles, and ensured the safe delivery of soldiers and materiel. As mercenaries, sea lords switched among patrons to secure the most favourable terms, even serving competing warlords simultaneously at times.


Lords of the Sea
Pirates, Violence, and Commerce in Late Medieval Japan
Peter D. Shapinsky

***Lords of the Sea: Pirates, Violence and Commerce in Late Medieval Japan*** **is out Now from The University of Michigan Press.**

## Q. HOW DID THE SEA LORDS LEGITIMISE THEIR CONTROL OVER THEIR MARITIME DOMAINS?

A. Legitimising control required devising practices for administering maritime space to inspire a perception among travellers, land-based authorities and domainal inhabitants that portions of the sea belonged to a given sea-lord family. Protection businesses served such sea-tenurial ends for many sea-lord bands. They fortified maritime chokepoints, islands and ports, which they transformed into boundaries by launching ships to intercept passing vessels. They forced passing travellers to accept their suzerainty through the negotiation and imposition of protection payments. In the 16th century one band, the Noshima Murakami of the Inland Sea, developed a reputation and domain sufficiently extensive to institutionalise protection payments into a system by which voyagers and their backers would proactively request the assistance of the Noshima. The Noshima would then bestow a flag bearing their crest to be flown at the masthead. The flags marked much of the Inland Sea as Noshima territory.

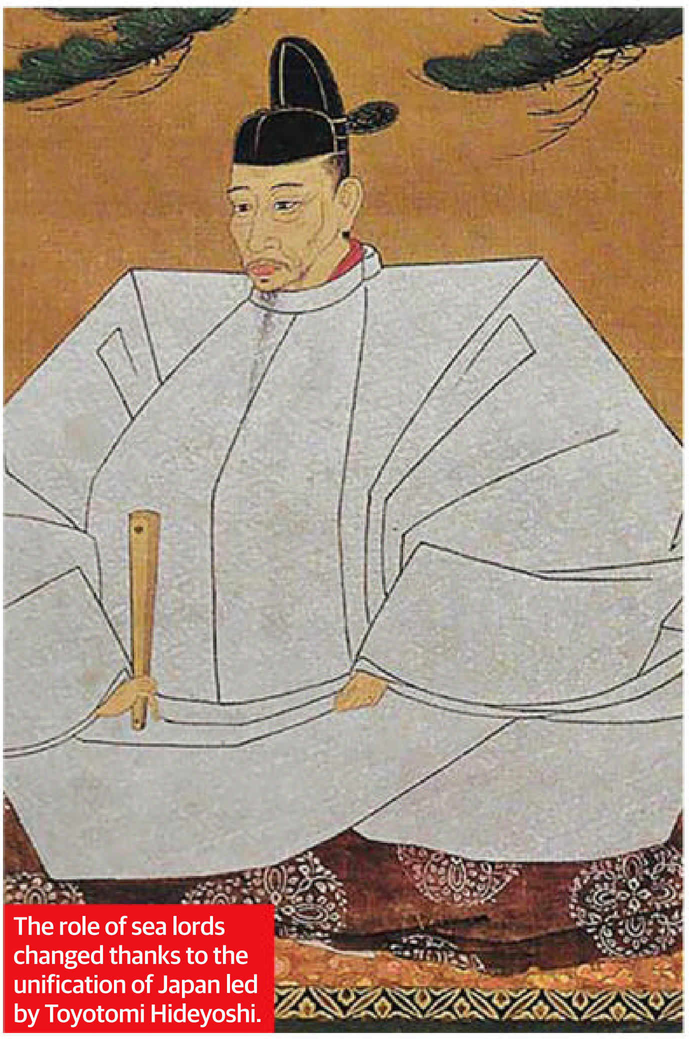

The role of sea lords changed thanks to the unification of Japan led by Toyotomi Hideyoshi.

Image source: wiki/Shouzou.com

## Q. WHAT LED TO THE DECLINE OF SEA LORDS TOWARDS THE END OF THE 16TH CENTURY?

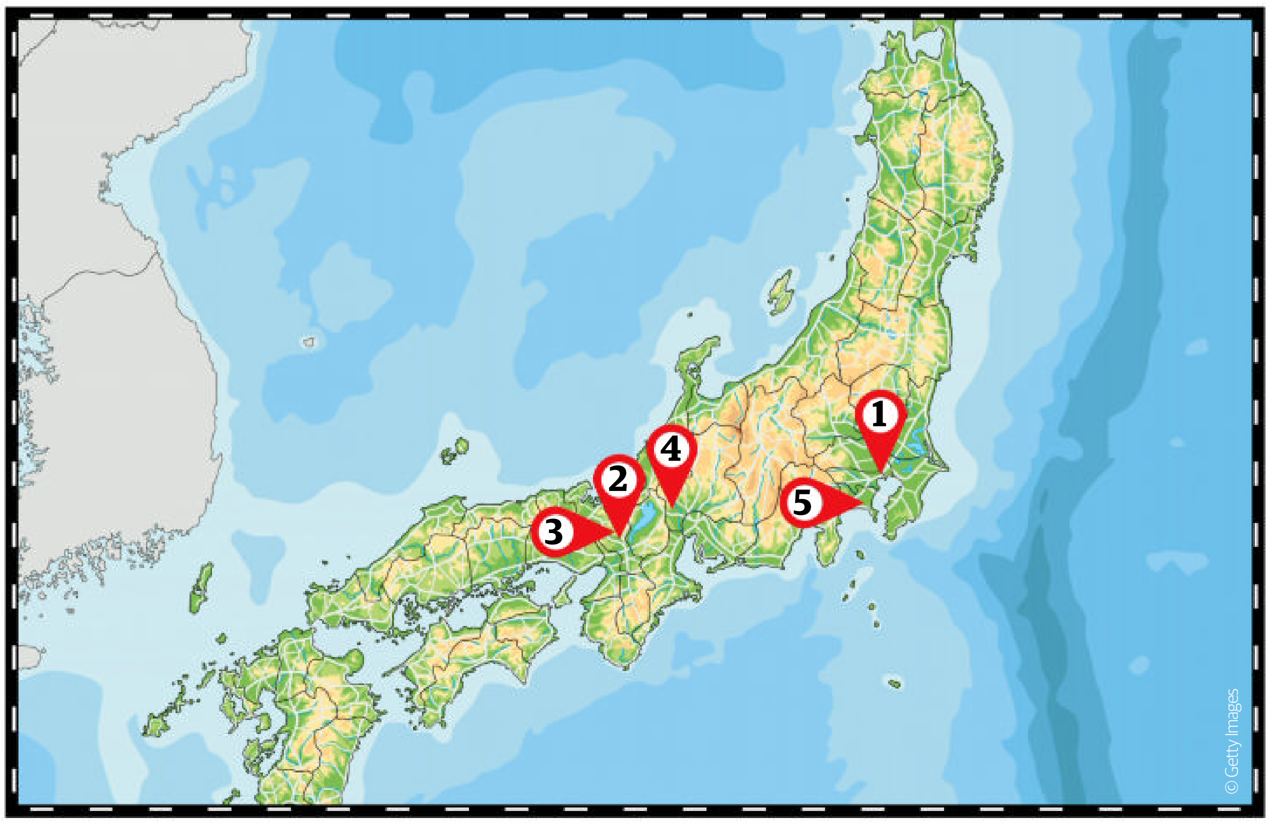
A. Sea-lord bands continued to expand their maritime domains until the 1590 unification of Japan by Toyotomi Hideyoshi (1537-98). The Noshima and several others convinced Hideyoshi of the advantages in negotiating a settlement with them. By performing warrior lordship, they secured privileged positions in the early modern order as local lords or high-ranking vassals. In return, these sea-lord houses suppressed those their overlords deemed pirates, extending Japanese sovereignty off-shore, and served Hideyoshi in his invasion of Korea (1592-98). However, unification also transformed perception of the seas from autonomous sea-lord space into an appendage of the unified land. In the Edo period (1600-1868), former sea-lord houses cooperated in this conceptual transformation by surrendering large-scale warships and castles and rewriting their own histories. As a result of their efforts, the term 'pirate' in early modern Japan took on commemorative valences as loyal 'naval vassals', which rewrote sea lords' medieval pasts as autonomous mercenaries and entrepreneurs.

## Q. WHAT PROBLEMS HAVE YOU FOUND WHILE DEALING WITH SOURCES ON LATE MEDIEVAL JAPANESE PIRATES?

A. One important question concerns interactions between different pirate groups in late medieval Japan. For example, in the mid-16th century Kyushu hosted thousands of Ming Chinese expatriate merchants who led multi-ethnic bands of 'Japanese pirates' consisting of mariners from China, Korea, Europe and Southeast Asia, as well as Japan. Figures such as Wang Zhi, whose array of guises included calling himself 'King of Hui', led invasions of the Chinese mainland. Contacts between Inland Sea sea lords and Chinese sea merchants in the courts of shared patrons, including Japanese warlord families such as the Ōuchi, Ōtomo and Matsura, potentially brought these populations into each other's orbit. Chinese and Korean literati collected extensive intelligence about the Japanese littoral from envoys and escaped and captured pirates. Their writings suggest that Inland Sea bands participated in raids and trade in China, but details of the scope of interaction and modes of communication remain unclear.

# Places to Explore HISTORIC JAPAN

Five locations that will transport you back to the feudal period



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## 1 SAMURAI MUSEUM

### SHINJUKU, TOKYO

For anyone who wants to immerse themselves in over 700 years of Japanese warfare history, then look no further than the Samurai Museum. Opened in September 2015 and with over 70 exhibits to explore across two floors, there are various samurai weapons, armour and helmets to see, with plenty of information on the artefacts and the era they're from. A perfect starting place for those who know little about the samurai, there are also guided tours of the museum provided in English for visitors who want to learn more about samurai history. The museum offers experiences including a professional sword performance and a photo session where you can try on samurai armour or iro uchikake, a traditional type of wedding kimono. (Both are included in your admission fee). At extra cost, there are also samurai calligraphy lessons, a Japanese sword lecture and a samurai live music show available. With a wide variety of things to do, the Samurai Museum is ideal for a family day out.

*Open daily from 10:30am to 9pm. Average adult ticket is 1,800 Yen. samuraimuseum.jp/en*

The museum has a range of samurai armour on display

© Alamy

## 2 GINKAKU-JI

### KYOTO

The Silver Pavilion is a must-see

© Getty Images

This Zen temple was originally built in 1482 as a retirement villa for shōgun Ashikaga Yoshimasa, who was inspired by the Golden Pavilion (Kinkaku-ji), the retirement villa that had been built by his grandfather, Ashikaga Yoshimitsu. It was initially supposed to be covered in silver foil and so it became known as the Silver Pavilion, but this plan was disrupted by the Ōnin War from 1467 to 1477 and it was never followed through. Ginkaku-ji became a centre for Higashiyama culture, which influenced the arts across Japan, but it was eventually converted into a temple following Yoshimasa's death in 1490. After undergoing restoration, Ginkaku-ji has various sights for tourists to see, including a second temple, Togudo, which dates back to the site's foundation. Ginkaku-ji is also known for its dry sand garden and moss garden, the latter of which offers beautiful views of the temple and the city.

*Open daily, 8:30am to 5pm from March to November, and 9am to 4:30pm from December to February. Average adult ticket is 500 Yen. shokoku-ji.jp/en*

© Alamy

The stunning Golden Pavillion

## 3 KINKAKU-JI
### KYOTO

Kinkaku-ji was originally a Kamakura era villa owned by an aristocrat named Saionji Kintsune. It fell into disrepair as the Saionji clan lost their influence with the collapse of the Kamakura shōgunate, and the villa was subsequently purchased by shōgun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu in 1397. He transformed it into his own retirement villa and complex, with the villa becoming known as the Golden Pavilion as it was covered in gold leaf. Kinkaku-ji soon became the centre of Kitayama culture, which incorporated Ming-dynasty Chinese culture into Japanese society, and played host to important visitors such as Emperor Gokomatsu. In accordance with Yoshimitsu's wishes, Kinkaku-ji was turned into a temple following his death in 1408, but it has subsequently been burnt down three times, most recently by a monk in 1950 (it was rebuilt five years later). In 1987, the top two floors were decorated with gold leaf and in 1994, Kinkaku-ji was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Today, it's a popular tourist destination thanks to its stunning architecture and Japanese Zen gardens, which reflect the style of the Muromachi period. Visitors will be able to see statues of both Yoshimitsu and the Buddha, as well as the golden phoenix at the top of the pavilion. The site also features a small temple dedicated to the Buddhist deity Fudo Myo-o.

*Open daily, 9am to 5pm. Average adult ticket is 400 Yen. shokoku-ji.jp/en*

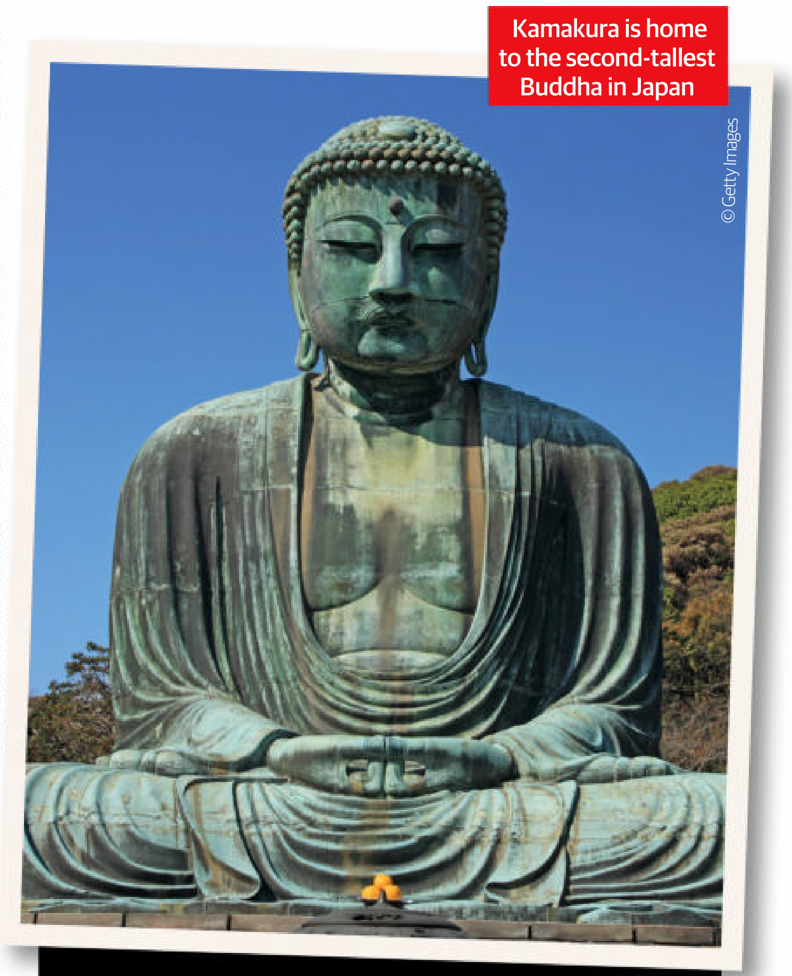
© Getty Images

The battlefield at Sekigahara is worth a visit

## 4 SEKIGAHARA
### GIFU PREFECTURE

A visit to the town of Sekigahara is a must for anyone truly fascinated in the history of Japan. Although it's known today as a tranquil location, it was here where the pivotal Battle of Sekigahara was fought in 1600, marking the end of the Azuchi-Momoyama era. Just three years later, the Tokugawa Shōgunate and the start of the Edo period were ushered in, a significant moment in Japanese history. Visitors can explore the large monuments at the site and the many landmarks that remain from the battle, including the army base camps of the Tokugawa and Ishida clans, a graveyard and, of course, the battlefield itself. The site covers a vast area, so make sure you rent a bicycle! If you want to learn more about the battle, head to the Sekigahara Town History & Folklore Museum, which has various items excavated from the battle site on display.

*The Museum is open 9am to 4pm between November and March and until 4:30pm between April and October. Average Adult ticket is 350 Yen. kanko-sekigahara.jp/en*


© Getty Images

Kamakura is home to the second-tallest Buddha in Japan

## 5 KAMAKURA
### KANAGAWA PREFECTURE

Today, Kamakura may just be a small coastal city but it was once the most important location in Japan. It was here where Minamoto Yoritomo decided to base his new military government in 1192, which subsequently became known as the Kamakura Shōgunate as a result. Kamakura remained as the centre of political life in Japan for over a century until the fall of the government and the beginning of the Muromachi government, based in Kyoto. The city is home to over 100 temples and shrines, including the Hasedera Temple and Tsurugaoka Hachimangu, a Shinto shrine which was founded in 1063 – the current building, dating back to 1180, was commissioned by Yoritomo himself.

Kamakura also famously boasts the Great Buddha statue, which dates back to 1252, and at 11.4m tall it's the second-tallest in the country. Located less than an hour from Tokyo and with numerous historical monuments to see, including what's believed to be Yoritomo's final resting place, the city is a popular day trip with tourists and can easily be reached by train. Time your visit right and it may coincide with one of the many festivals held in Kamakura, some of which are linked back to Japan's first shōgun.

*The Great Buddha of Kamakura is open daily, 8am to 4:30pm. Average ticket is 20 Yen. kotoku-in.jp/en/*
*(For other sites, please check opening times and ticket prices before travel.)*

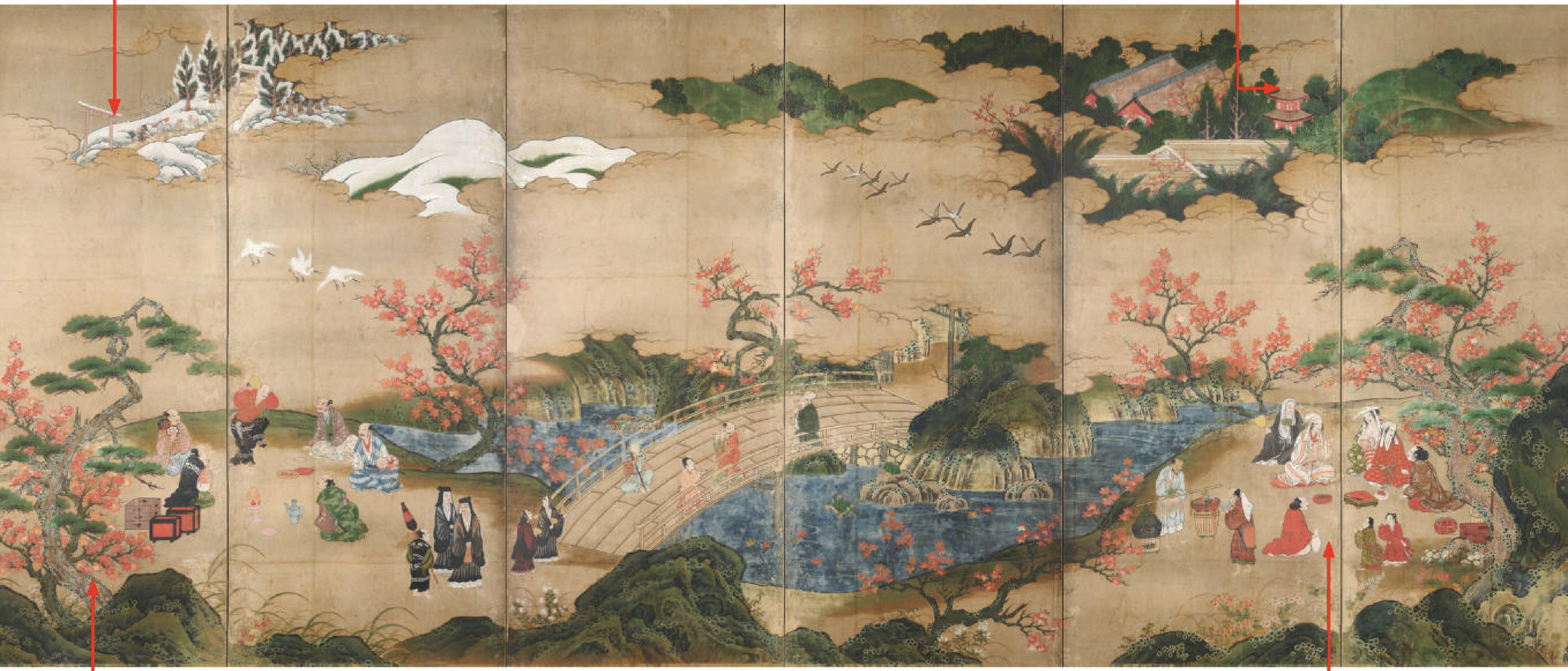
# Historical Treasures

# MAPLE VIEWERS

## CAPTURING THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF FEUDAL JAPAN, MID-16TH CENTURY

**FOUR SEASONS**
To the left of the painting, the gate and path to the Atago Shrine is covered in snow, foretelling the arrival of winter. It is thought that Hideyori probably painted another byōbu depicting spring and summer to accompany this one.

**BUDDHIST TEMPLE**
The roofs of Jingo-ji can be seen among the thick clouds at the top-right of the painting, next to a red pagoda. Jingo-ji dates back to the 9th century and it is located on Mount Takao.



**AUTUMNAL BEAUTY**
The Kiyotaki River at Takao, depicted in this painting, is located north of the city of Kyoto. To this day, the area is famous for the vivid red leaves of its maple trees.

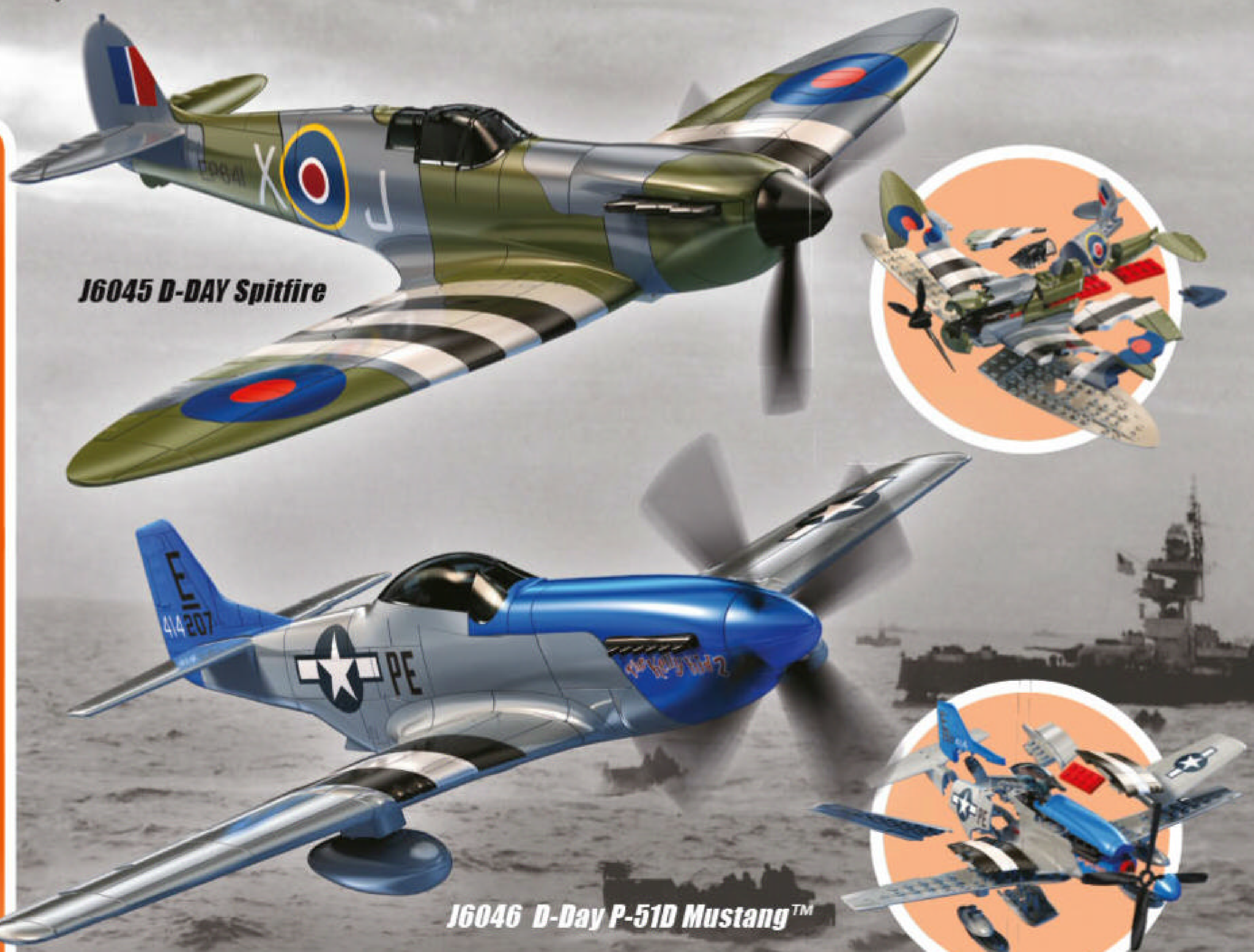
**TIME TO RELAX**
These women and children are shown enjoying the view as they sit under the maple trees. Next to them is a man serving cups of matcha tea, which were sold during the Muromachi period.

Throughout history art and culture have been used to legitimise regimes, and it was no different in feudal Japan. Under the Kamakura Shōgunate, founded by the first shōgun Minamoto Yoritomo, art combined samurai culture with Zen Buddhism, which had become increasingly popular in Japan. This was carried on by the Ashikaga Shōgunate during the Muromachi period, a time known for its artistic innovation, where the continued affiliation with Zen Buddhism led to Chinese-style techniques and themes becoming prevalent in art. This style of painting, known as 'kanga', or Chinese paintings, was often monochromatic and contrasted with the more colourful style of traditional Japanese art.

This particular painting, titled *Maple Viewers*, is a celebrated piece of art created sometime during the Azuchi-Momoyama era, which succeeded the Muromachi period and spanned the final three decades of the 16th century. It has been painted on a six-section folding screen, known as a byōbu, which were used to decorate wealthy homes during this era. Currently housed at the Tokyo National Museum and named a National Treasure of Japan, *Maple Viewers* depicts the Kiyotaki River at Takao surrounded by maple trees with different groups of people, including warriors and Buddhist priests, enjoying the view. This unique painting is widely regarded as a piece of pioneering artwork which differs from the trends of the day by portraying contemporary entertainment and clothing, predating the use of Ukiyo-e woodblock printing, which became popular during the Edo period and focused on scenes from everyday life.

Due to the red stamp located on the far left of the painting, the artist is believed to be Kanō Hideyori. Little is known about his life, although it is thought that he was either the son or grandson of Kanō Motonobu, a Japanese painter whose father was the founder of the famous Kanō school of painting. Often considered to be the most influential school of painting in Japanese history and known for producing innovative artists, the Kanō school was later patronised by the Tokugawa Shōgunate during the Edo period.

Image source: wiki/Google Cultural Institute



J6045 D-DAY Spitfire

J6046 D-Day P-51D Mustang™

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | m<br>9.12 | m<br>11.23 |
| m²<br>22.48 | kg<br>2,182 | km/h<br>571 |
| B km A<br>925 | m/m<br>771 | m<br>9,723 |

1 x Rolls Royce Merlin II V12

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | m<br>9.83 | m<br>11.28 |
| m²<br>21.83 | kg<br>3,465 | km/h<br>703 |
| B km A<br>2,755 | m/m<br>978 | m<br>12,800 |

1 × Packard V-1650-7
liquid-cooled supercharged V-12

# D-Day Aircraft

## FIGHTER PLANES OF THE NORMANDY INVASION

> *"You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you..."*
> —Eisenhower, Letter to Allied Forces

Operation Overlord, commonly known as D-Day, was launched on 6 June 1944 with the Normandy landings. A 1,200-plane airborne assault preceded an amphibious assault involving more than 5,000 vessels. Nearly 160,000 troops crossed the English Channel on 6 June, and more than two million Allied troops were in France by the end of August.

P-51D Mustangs™ and Supermarine Spitfires were among the D-Day aircraft which provided air cover for the massive invasion, strafing strongholds and fighting off German bombers. As recreated on our Quickbuild models, the allies painted the plane's wings with stripes to ensure the Allied aircraft were not targeted by friendly-fire in all the chaos of war. This was kept secret and only revealed to the troops who would take part just days ahead of the first waves.

**You can you create your very own fighters of the RAF at home with an Airfix QuickBuild kit. QuickBuild kits allow you to recreate a wide variety of iconic aircraft, tanks and cars into brilliant scale models. No paint or glue is required, the push together brick system results in a realistic, scale model that is compatible with other plastic brick brands.**

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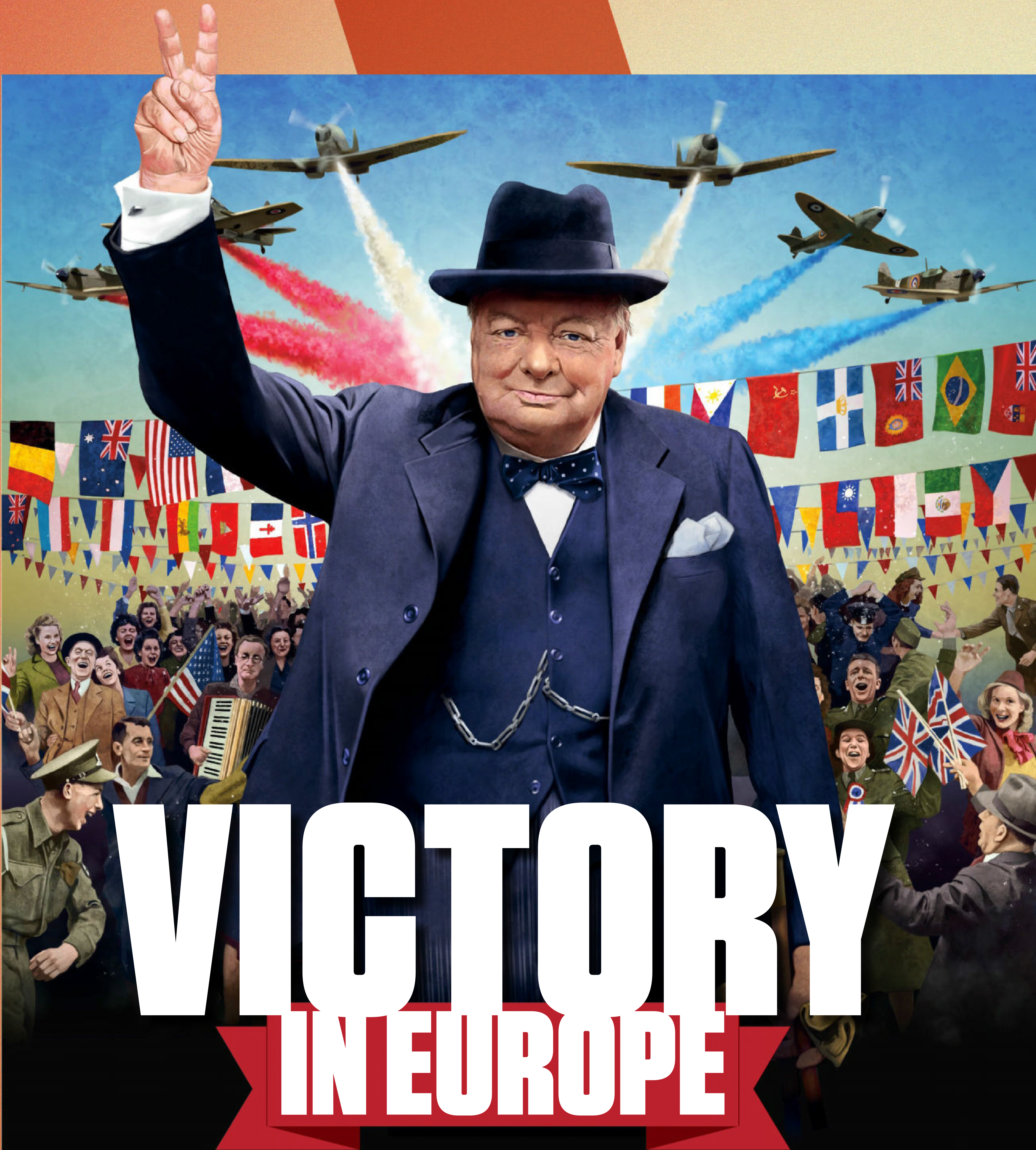


# VICTORY IN EUROPE

To mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day we explore the final months of WWII, the celebrations, the role of Churchill and the aftermath

Written by Jonathan Gordon, Callum McKelvie, Richard Toye and Keith Lowe

Illustration by: Joe Cummings

# THE INEVITABLE PEACE

© Getty Images

WWII expert Peter Caddick-Adams discusses the last months of the war in Europe and some of the key figures involved

**As a new year dawned in 1945, victory in Europe seemed close at hand.** The Allies had made incredible strides into the continent from the west since D-Day and the Soviet Union was rallying in the east. But was victory already inevitable? And how convinced were the people of the time that VE Day would soon be at hand? We asked military expert Peter Caddick-Adams to talk us through these questions and more.

### *As the war reached March and April, how clear was it that the Allies would win in Europe?*

Allied victory had been inevitable for some time. On being appointed Supreme Commander in December 1943 Eisenhower predicted there would be two major battles to defeat Germany. The first would be to land on the French coast; the second would be crossing the River Rhine. He forecast that both would be extremely bloody. D-Day was costly and the battle for Normandy bloodier than anticipated.

**EXPERT BIO**

Image source: Russell Emm

**PETER CADDICK-ADAMS**

Peter Caddick-Adams is a writer and broadcaster who specialises in military history, defence and security issues. He has written numerous books on World War II His latest, *Sand and Steel*, will be out on 16 April through Arrow, for £12.99.

**TOP** Soviet and US troops shake hands across the broken bridge over the Elbe at Torgau as their combined invasion of Germany reaches its final days

However, most German combat power in the west had been dissipated during the Ardennes campaign, which ended on 28 January. Coincidentally, from this date there would be exactly 100 days left of the European War, though that was not obvious at the time. The Reich's forces had little petrol and no air cover, while many of its battalions included old men and boys. This meant that "the last great heave of war", as Churchill described the March 1945 Rhine crossings in his memoirs, were accomplished with relative ease. By the end of March, all seven Allied armies (four US, and one each from Britain, Canada and France) were east of the great river that no hostile army had assaulted since Napoleon in 1805.

The Allies suffered two major shocks of different kinds during the last 100 days. The first was the death of President Roosevelt on 29 March from a cerebral haemorrhage, aged 63. The second was the discovery of the concentration camps; although Auschwitz had been liberated by Soviet troops on 27 January, Western Allied soldiers were totally unprepared for the horrors they encountered when Ohrdruf was taken on 4 April, nearby Buchenwald on 11 April, and Bergen-Belsen four days later. Few inmates had survived and were so weak that they could barely move. The camps' survivors and their liberators would be permanently traumatised by the experience.

### *Can we pinpoint any clear turning point or point of no return that made VE Day inevitable?*

We must be clear whether we're talking about the war in the east or west. In the former, the die was cast in Russia's favour maybe at Stalingrad (January 1943), certainly at Kursk in July the same year. Thereafter, Berlin would surely fall to Soviet forces at some stage.

In the west, D-Day marked the beginning of the end and the August 1944 breakout from Normandy created an unstoppable momentum to the Reich's western frontier. Neither the Allied setback at Arnhem, nor failure of the German offensive in the Bulge were strategic in nature. Both probably slowed down the outcome in the west but didn't alter it.

***Ultimately Karl Dönitz was left in charge of Germany. What do we know about his character and his approach to the end of the war?***

Karl Dönitz (1891-1980) was as surprised as anyone else to succeed Hitler. Knowing his Kriegsmarine chief to be anti-communist, anti-semitic and pro-Nazi, the Führer assessed Dönitz's submarine service as the most loyal, taking the highest losses, of up to 75 per cent. The other likely successors - Goring, Himmler and Kesselring - had ruled themselves out by trying to negotiate peace settlements or surrenders behind Hitler's back. As his propaganda minister Goebbels had committed suicide with Hitler, Dönitz became the senior Reich government minister and interpreted his role as playing for time to get as many Germans to the west, away from the Russians. Dönitz escaped execution at Nuremberg, though he never repented of his beliefs, but Allied prosecutors found it impossible to prove he had knowingly committed crimes against humanity or had been complicit in the Holocaust.

***What were the final battles or shots of the war?***

Besides the vast numbers of German soldiers taken prisoner in the final months of the war (317,000 from Army Group B in the Ruhr Pocket alone), German civilians suffered greatly from the Soviet advances and in the final major Allied air raids. At Dresden (13-15 February) an estimated 25,000 died, while of 80,000 Allied prisoners forced to march west by their German guards, maybe 5% died through malnutrition or execution. Two Allied

**BELOW-LEFT** Soviet soldiers pose on a tank in front of the Brandenburg Gate after the capture of Berlin

**BELOW-RIGHT** American 2nd Lieutenant William Robertson and Russian Lt Alexander Sylvashko embrace as US and Soviet forces meet near Torgau, Germany, in April 1945

## THE LAST SHOT

### What was the final engagement of the war in Europe?

Shortly before midnight on 7 May 1945, American soldier Domenic Mozzetta was on patrol just outside Klenovice in Czechoslovakia when he was fired at by a German sniper. The shot missed him, and the rifle's muzzle flash lit up the tree where the sniper was hiding. Mozzetta immediately returned fire and his bullets found their target. Minutes later at midnight, peace in Europe became official.

Image source: wiki/National Archives

## TIMELINE TO VICTORY, 1945

***17 JAN***
Soviet troops capture Warsaw, Poland, as part of their Vistula-Oder Offensive. The Russians outnumber the Germans by five to one, but they are held up enough that plans to march on Berlin are postponed until April.

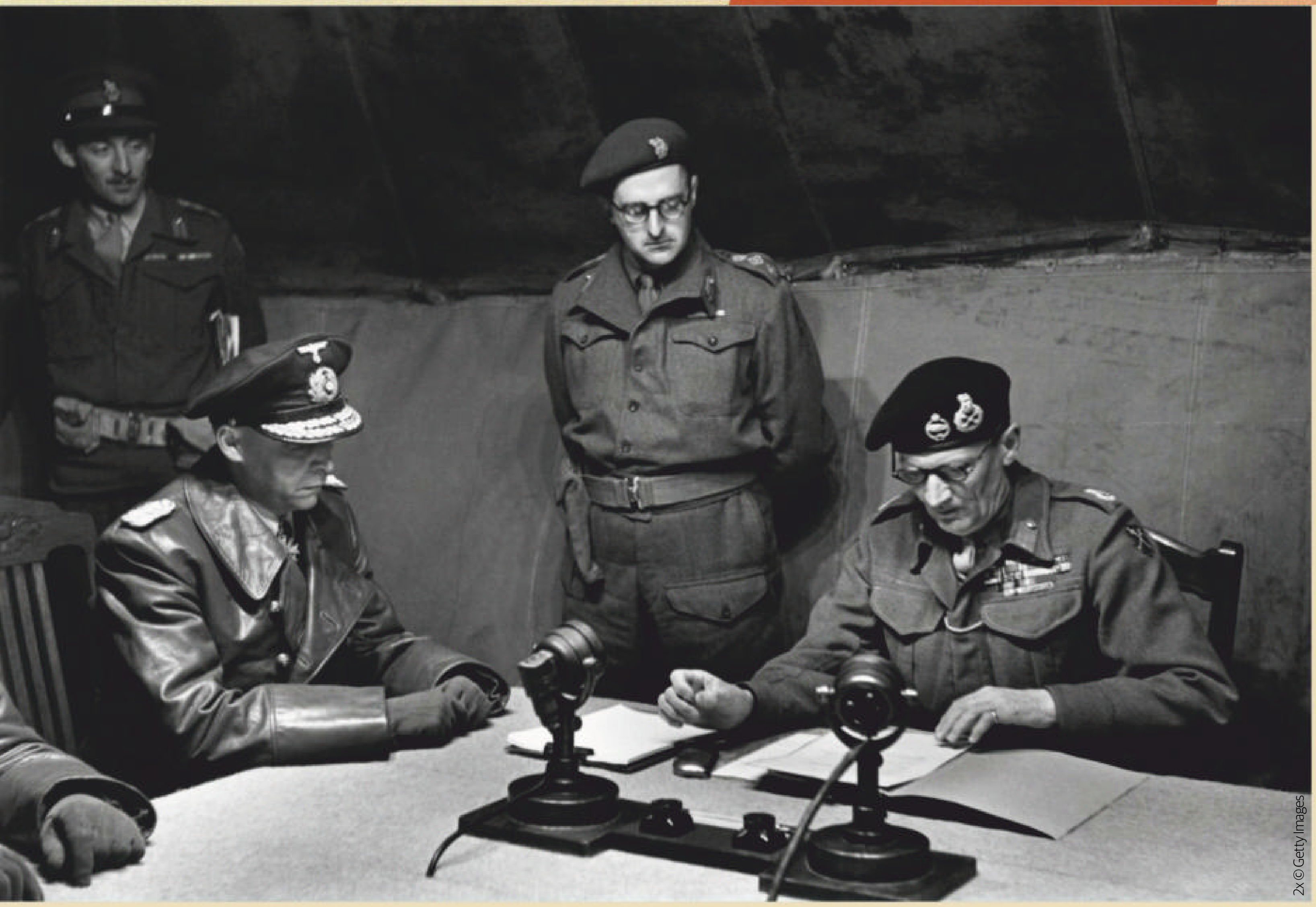
***27 JAN***
The Russians arrive at the Auschwitz concentration camp. Although most prisoners have been forced on a death march ahead of the advancing Soviets, some 7,000 survivors are found and freed.

***4-11 FEB***
With the end of the war in Europe in sight the Yalta conference is held between Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin to make plans for the post-war shape and organisation of the continent after the devastation of the war.

***13 FEB***
Bombing raids over Dresden begin, with the Royal Air Force and United States Army Air Force dropping more than 3,900 tons of high-explosives on the city in three days. It's believed up to 25,000 people are killed.

***27 MAR***
Operation Plunder is successful, with British and American troops crossing the Rhine River. This important tactical victory places Allied forces in a position to surround the Ruhr industrial region of Germany.

***29 MAR***
The last enemy action on British soil takes place at 9am as the last V-1 flying bomb hits a field in Datchworth, Hertfordshire. The V-1 had been the first of Germany's 'vengeance weapons' designed to terrify London.



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**ABOVE** Field Marshal Bernard Law Montgomery sits with General Admiral Hans-Georg von Friedeburg as Germany surrenders its forces in the Netherlands, north-west Germany and Denmark

generals died in the closing days, Major-General Tom Rennie of the 51st Highland Division on 24 March, and the US 3rd Armored Division's commander, Maurice Rose six days later. Due to the Allies being completely surprised by the German Ardennes assault, they were worried that Werewolf units, stay-behind Nazis, would attack from bases in the Bavarian Alps for months or years afterwards. Initiated as a last-ditch defence in a Goebbels speech of 23 March 1945 they largely failed to materialise as there was little time left to build their bases and squirrel away the necessary supplies.

### *VE Day was obviously a time of great celebration, but what was left still to be dealt with in Europe?*

The World War I veteran, holder of the Military Cross, and British Lieutenant Colonel, Charles Carrington, remembered that he and his colleagues could see the end of World War II in Europe approaching from a long way off, whereas the end of the Great War was unexpected until the last moment "like a sleeper suddenly awakening from a hideous nightmare". However, he noted being gloomy and exhausted on 8 May 1945 as "VE Day meant no more than the war, which might go on for years, had shifted its ground from Europe to Asia". Generally, the shadow of the war against Japan loomed over the victory celebrations in Europe, as the troops expected a swift posting to the Far East to fight an even more ferocious opponent.

A looming domestic food crisis overshadowed all else. Refugees competed with German residents for what little there was and the cities were full of dazed, hungry, scared, bewildered people. Lieutenant-Colonel Byford-Jones, on Montgomery's staff, passing through railway stations, found "men and women who had lost, together with their homes, families and property, all human dignity and had become animals, sleeping like animals on the floor". He added, "They looked like tramps who had been on the road for life. When I saw their passport pictures, taken a few months before, I was staggered. The change these people had undergone was incredible. They had all lost weight, aged ten years, and had lined faces." In refugee camps – former barracks, schools, quarantine stations, Red Cross centres – he "saw such human degradation, depravity and tragedy that I was physically sick after a few hours of it".

Noel Annan, an intelligence officer, recorded, "The spectacle of misery pervaded one's life, and the memory of Germany in defeat has never faded from my mind." Raymond Ebsworth drove into Germany in May 1945, entering at the border near Aachen, where he saw a sign which read 'You are entering Enemy Territory – Be on your Guard'. He was struck by the absence of people and "deadly silence in the streets, and of course the indescribable ruins". Perhaps the best account of the British zone was left by Ivone Kirkpatrick, who recalled, "Germany was then an astonishing sight. Everything which modern man considers necessary to the maintenance of life in a civilised society had disappeared. There was no governmental authority, no police. No trains, trams or cars; no factories working, no postal service, no telephones, no newspapers, no banks. No shop was open, and it would have been impossible to buy a loaf of bread, a glass of beer or an aspirin."

Image source: wiki/National Archives

**RIGHT** The unconditional surrender of German forces being signed by Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel at Soviet headquarters in Berlin

**12 APR**
US President Franklin D Roosevelt dies from a cerebral hemorrhage while resting ahead of an anticipated speech at the founding conference of the UN. The Allies liberate the Buchenwald and Belsen death camps.

**21 APR**
After a sustained Allied bombing campaign over Berlin ended on 20 April, the Red Army begins its advance into the city. Bombing continues in the centre as army groups advance from the south.

**28 APR**
Having fled Milan on 25 April in the face of the advancing Allies, Italian dictator Mussolini is captured by partisans near Lake Como. On 28 April he's shot by his captors and his body taken to Milan, where it is displayed.

**30 APR**
Less than 40 hours after marrying Eva Braun, Adolf Hitler commits suicide along with his bride, likely to avoid the same fate as Mussolini. Their bodies are taken to the Reich Chancellery garden and burned.

**7 MAY**
Hitler's successor Karl Donitz attempts to drag out surrender negotiations to bring troops and refugees home, away from the Soviets. At 1:30am on 7 May he authorises Germany's unconditional surrender.

**8 MAY**
With victory in Europe long expected for the Allies, the official announcement sees parties beginning ahead of the official celebrations. Over one million people take to the streets around the UK.

# HOMEFRONT STORIES

3x Image source: wiki/Imperial War Museums

**ABOVE** The Women's Land Army continued to operate until it was disbanded in October 1949. The Women's Timber Corp broke up in 1946

Julie Summers discusses how the people of Britain anticipated the end of the war and what lay ahead

### *What were the final few months of World War II like for civilians in Britain?*

The last few months of the war for British civilians were exhausting. For the previous nine months the Germans had been launching V1 and V2 rockets on London and the south east with lethal effect. Elsewhere, rationing and shortages added to people's woes and there was a sense of war-fatigue on the one hand and a growing awareness of the horrors that had been perpetrated in Nazi-occupied Europe. The author Barbara Cartland wrote: "We were glad, but still our hearts refused to sing, the shadow of war still lay over us in a restriction of freedom, in controls and coupons."

### *How prepared were people for victory? Was it well known it was close at hand?*

People were prepared for the end of the war and were relieved when it came. They had been told by the politicians and the press that Nazi rule was coming to an end. But there was not the same euphoria there had been at the end of World War I. When VE Day came in May 1945 it marked the end of the European conflict, but the war in the Far East was to last for another three months.

### *How did people prepare for VE Day?*

Some people laid on street parties for children while others celebrated in town centres. London was busy, with the streets

## HOMEFRONT HEROES

The Nazis never landed in Britian, but there were still plenty of heroes at home

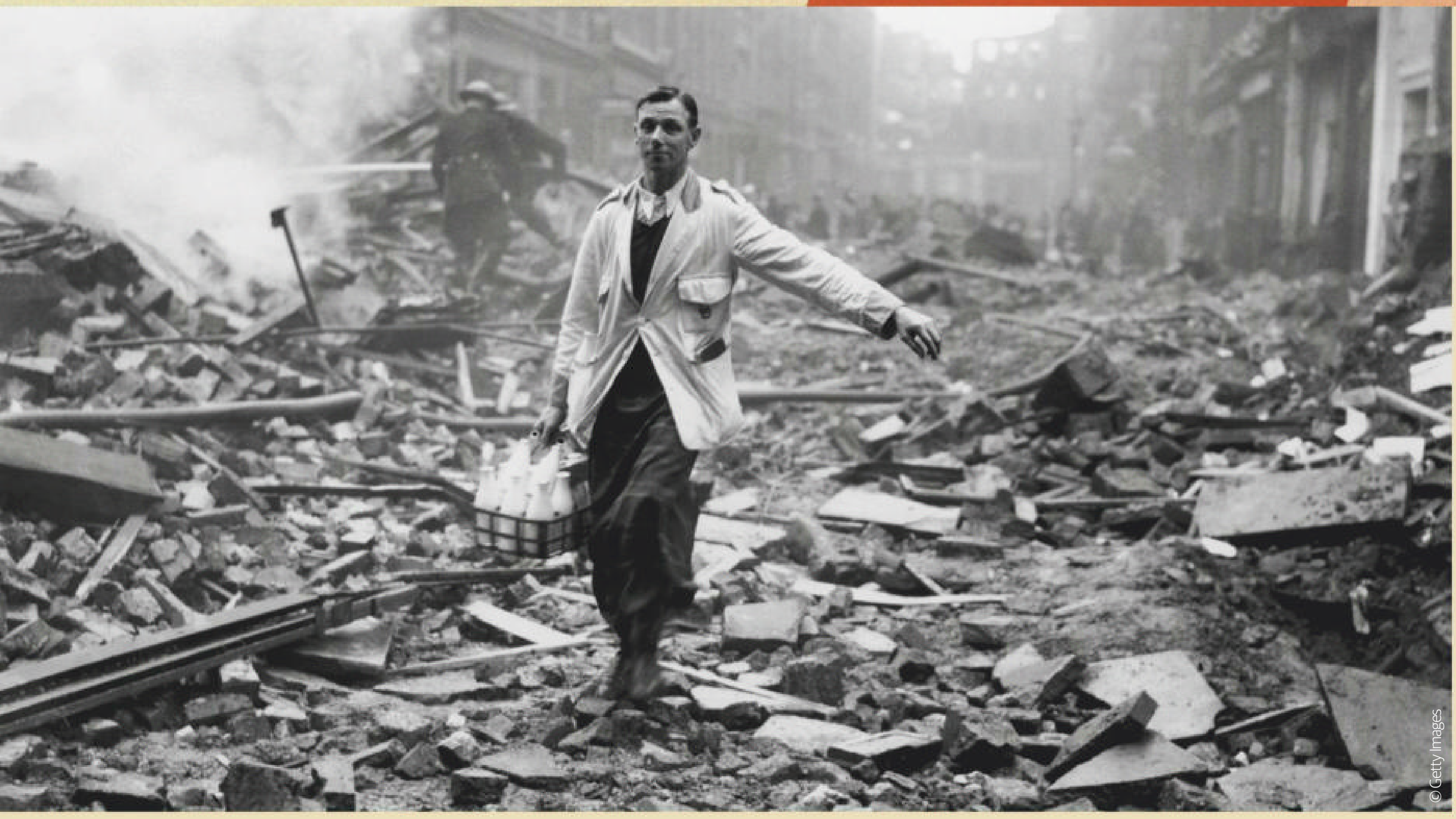
**SONIA STRAW**
Sonia was 19 when she was awarded the George Cross. An air raid warden, she assisted a number of very badly injured people during a raid and continued doing so while the attack raged on. During her efforts she was given no assistance but never halted in her work.

**GORDON BASTIAN**
Gordon Bastian was an engineering officer on the SS Empire Bowman when it was torpedoed on 30 March 1942, his birthday. Realising two men were trapped in the stokehold, he opened the watertight door, risking his own life. Gripping both men against the onslaught of water and having to hoist one up the ladder, he showed exceptional bravery.

**HARRY ERRINGTON**
London firefighter Errington was in the basement of a three-storey garage (occupied by the fire service) when it was hit by a German bomb. The basement air raid shelter took the full force of the collapsing building. He regained consciousness, rescued a trapped colleague and then returned to the flames to rescue another, despite his badly burnt hands.

**ARTHUR BYWATER**
The only civilian to have been awarded the George Cross for bravery, Bywater was a factory development officer. On 22 February 1944, at an arms factory in Lancashire, a defective fuse exploded, killing one woman. Realising all 12,000 fuses were at risk, Arthur and three volunteers spent the next few days clearing the site.

**ALBERT HEMMING**
Hemming was on air raid duty when a house was bombed, trapping several people. One man was pinned under a beam, any movement of which would cause the building to collapse. Hemming worked tirelessly for three hours, under the constant threat of coal gas, to free him.



© Getty Images

LYONS
TEA
SPECIAL MARGARINE
NATIONAL BUTTER

**TOP** A milkman displays the Blitz spirit, carrying on his round in the aftermath of a bombing raid

**ABOVE-LEFT** Food rationing didn't fully come to an end in Britain until 1954

**ABOVE-RIGHT** Women continued to serve in the auxiliary armed forces for some years

## WHAT WAS THE 'DEMOB SUIT'?

### Explaining the parting gift for British servicemen

At the end of the war, rationing meant it was impossible to buy a suit without a large quantity of coupons. Demobilised British servicemen who had spent a long period in uniform would suddenly struggle to find appropriate clothing. Government centres were set up to provide soldiers with civilian clothes including a hat, a three-piece pinstripe suit, two shirts, a tie, shoes and raincoat. Despite suits being made of the best materials and by the best suppliers (the principle was Burton) many were given the wrong size and some felt they looked like old fashioned gangsters and had swapped one uniform for another.

CIVIL
CLOT
PUSH BAR

Image source: wiki/HMSO

of the capital packed with ex-servicemen, foreign servicemen and women, and young people out to mark the end of the war. However, the formal celebrations were muted because the country was still at war with Japan.

### *What were the expectations for people after VE Day?*

As after World War I, people wanted and expected life in Britain to get back to normal. Where there had been harmony of purpose during the war years now discontent broke out when people realised that it would be several years until things would return to what they thought of as normal. Rationing was still very much in place and in some cases it got worse – bread was rationed for the first time, for example. And demobilisation led to further clothing shortages, which in turn led to more resentment.

### *When did British families begin to get reunited after evacuation and being enlisted?*

Demobilisation took more than 18 months and evacuees returned not en masse but piecemeal. Some servicemen were fast-tracked out of the armed forces, especially if they had experience of trades that were badly needed, such as builders, roofers and electricians. That naturally caused resentment, as it'd done after World War I. Evacuees made their way home to families who'd often changed, grown up or moved. A number of children found they had no home to go to nor parents to return to.

### *What would the expectations have been for women who had found their agency during the war?*

This interesting question depends on whose perspective you view it from. Women who had found their agency during the war were expected to return to their homes and make way for the men who would need their jobs. For the government that was the ideal situation, so too for the returning men. For the women it was often a bitter disappointment and many found it almost impossible to settle down after the war. Audrey Withers, the subject of my latest book, was scathing about the government's ability to develop instant amnesia about the role women had played in the war. She never let up in her fight to ensure women were treated as equals to men.

**EXPERT BIO**

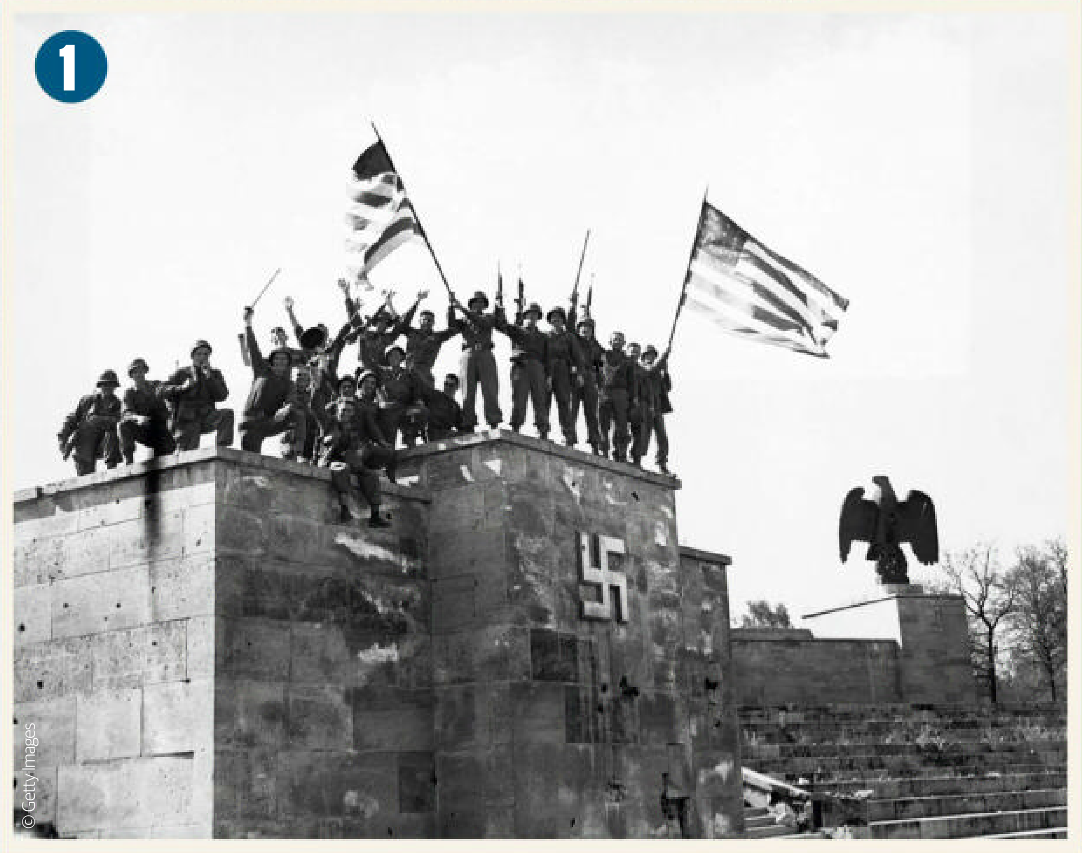
Image source: Richard Leon PR

**JULIE SUMMERS**

*Dressed For War* by Julie Summers is published by Simon & Schuster. Priced £20 (hardback edition), it's available to buy now from all good book stockists.

# VE DAY PHOTO GALLERY

Images of how this historic day was marked around the world



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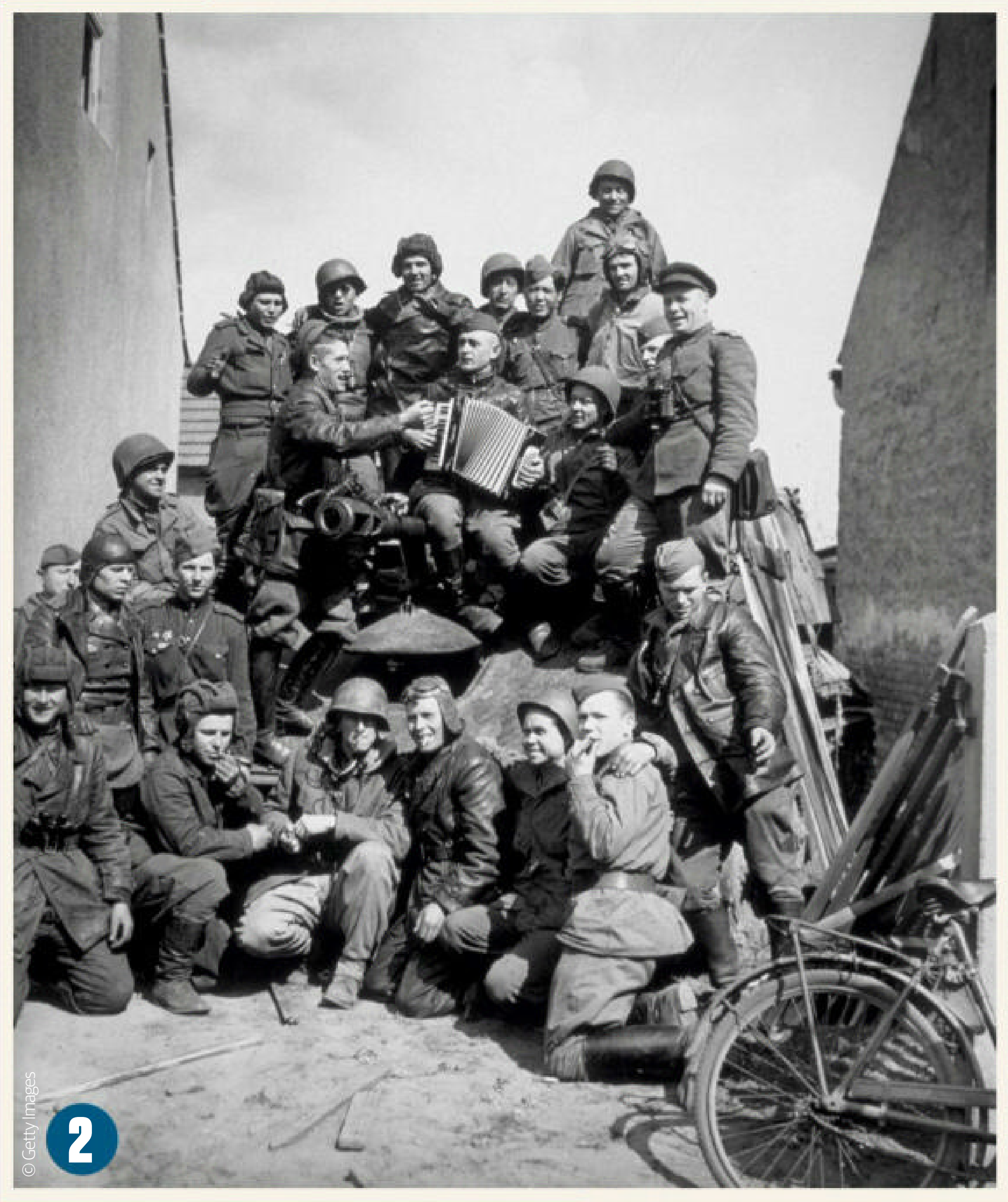

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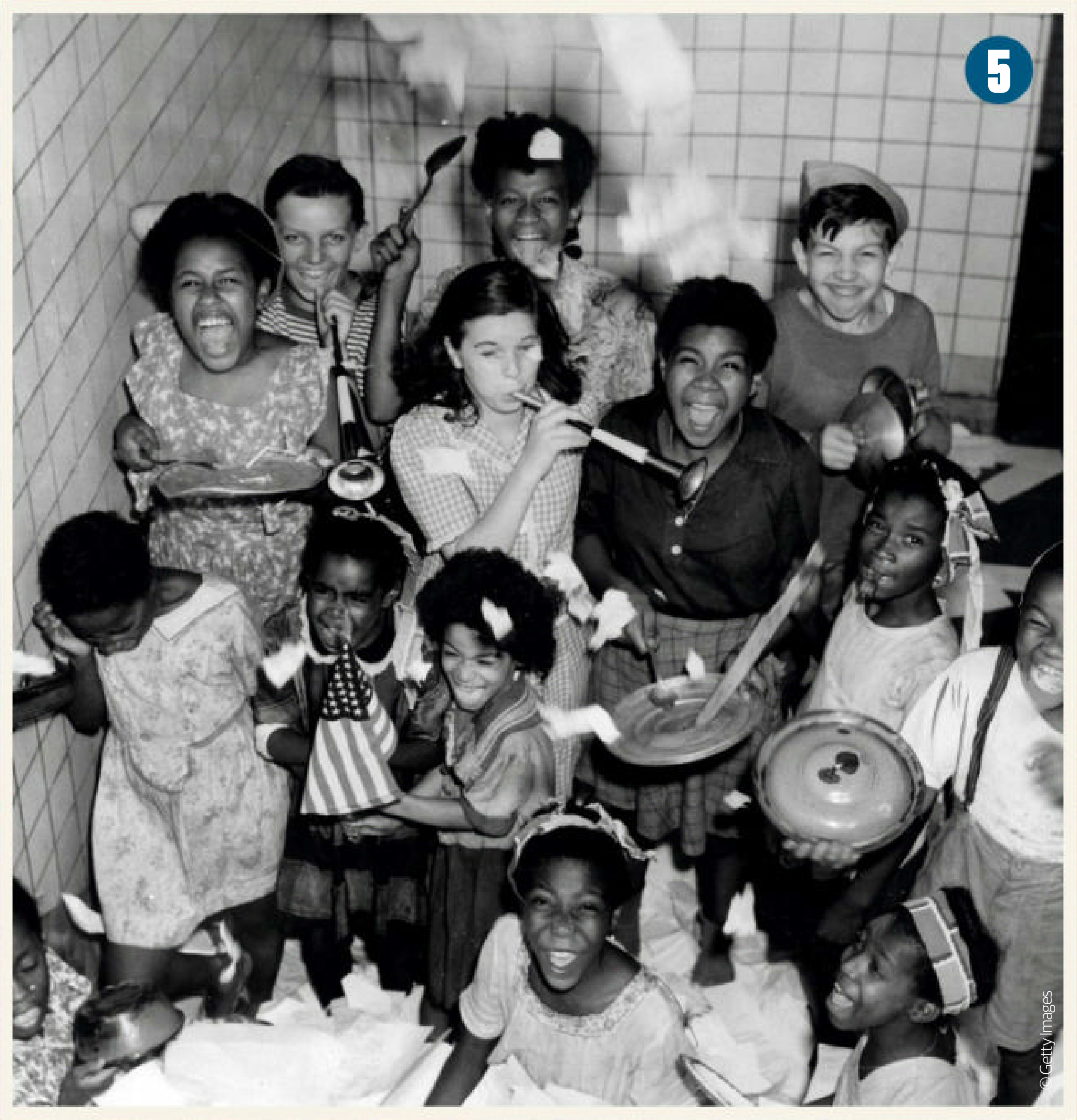
**1** Troops from the American 7th Army fly their flag at the rostrum in Nuremberg, from where Hitler had previously spoken.

**2** US and Soviet troops gather together on top of a Russian tank near Griebo, Germany, to celebrate their victory.

**3** The view from the Arc de Triomphe of the Champs Élysées as masses gather to celebrate peace in Europe on 8 May.

**4** Flags, ticker tape and papers are strewn across Bay Street, Toronto, Canada, as people celebrate the end of the war in Europe.

**5** A group of children gathered in a stairwell in Baltimore, Maryland, play instruments for VE Day.



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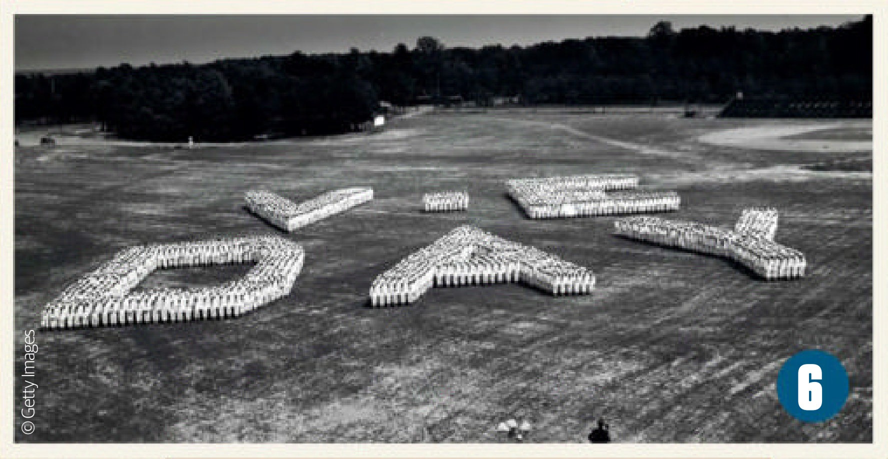

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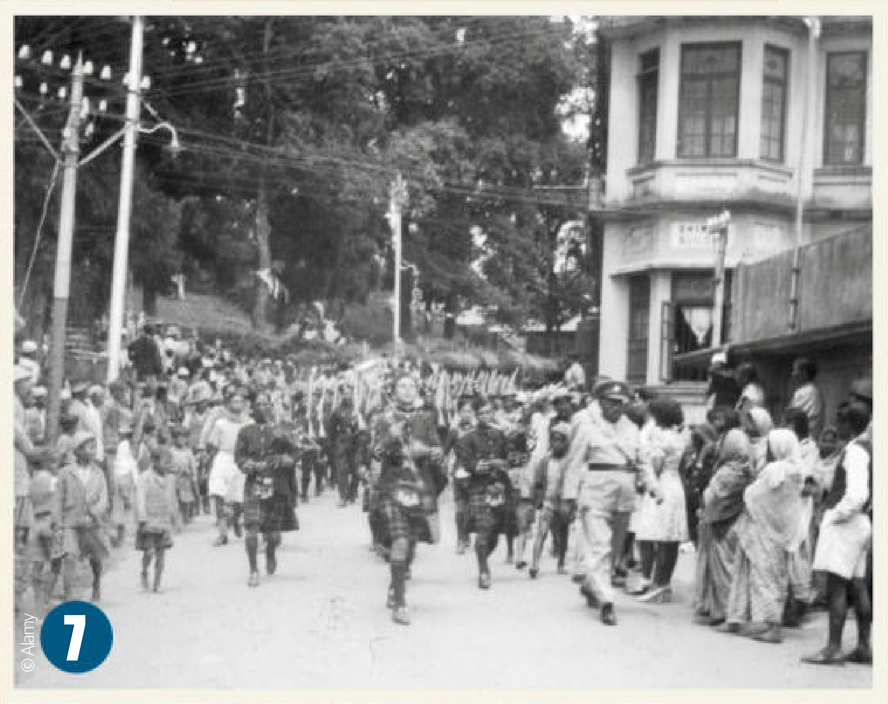

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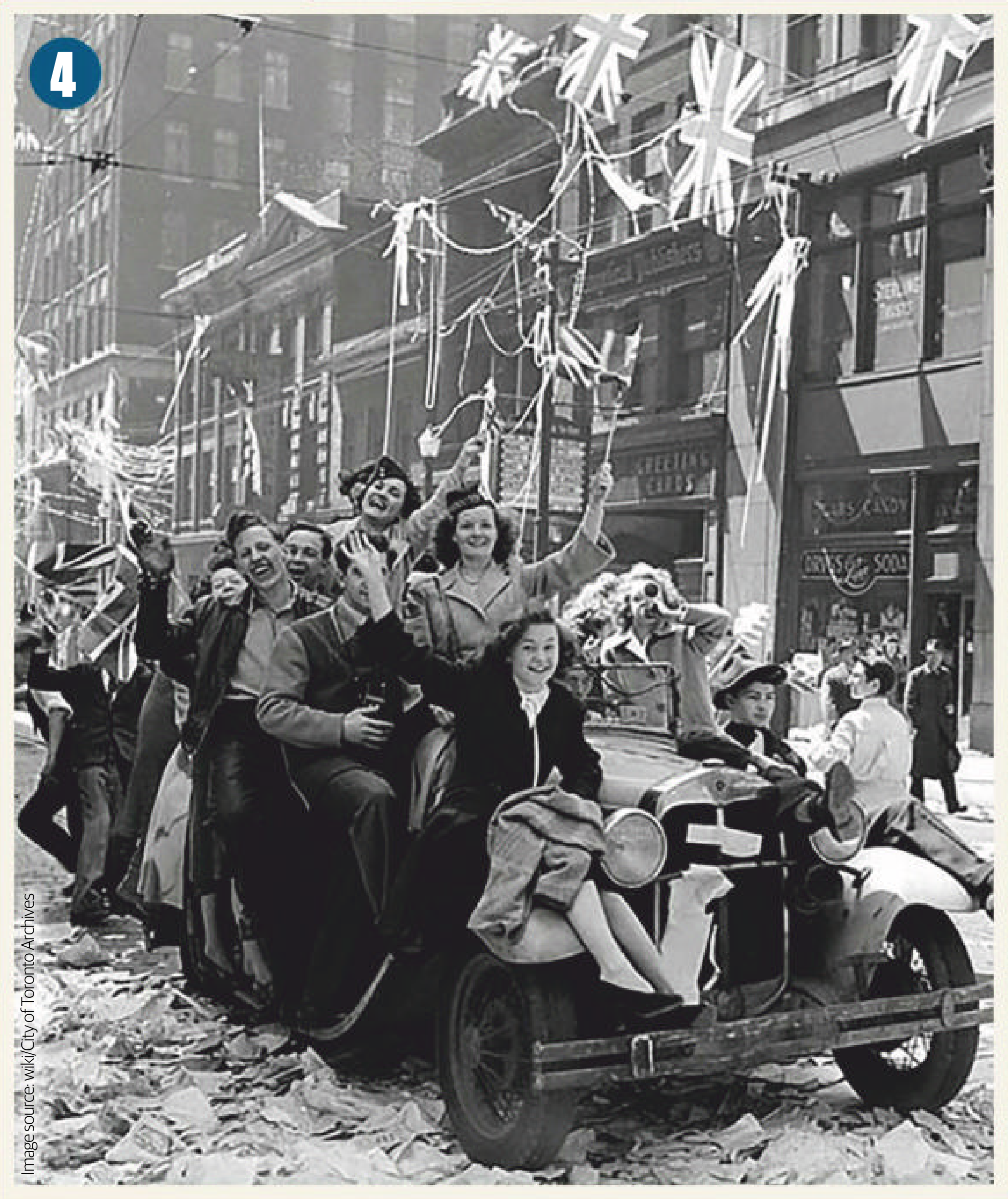

Image source: wiki/City of Toronto Archives

**6** US Navy trainees at Camp Peary, Virginia, take a break from their preparations for the war in the Pacific to honour victory in Europe.

**7** British bagpipers lead a parade through the streets of Kalimpong, India, to mark the end of the war in Europe.

**8** Dancing breaks out in London as women from the London Office of War Information celebrate with US servicemen.

**9** Workers in Manchester head out in high spirits to celebrate victory and the national holiday being enjoyed across Britain.

**10** A group in Moscow, made up mostly of women, lift a British sergeant above their heads in triumph.

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ПРОЕЗД ВСЮДУ
1400
M.55

With the war in Europe over Churchill would go on to visit Berlin, including this stop at Hitler's former bunker location

2x Image source: wiki/Imperial War Museums

# CHURCHILL'S BITTERSWEET VICTORY

As VE Day arrived, we explore Winston Churchill's last moments in the war room and his concerns for the future amid celebration

**When Churchill awoke on 7 May, Captain Richard Pim, the naval officer in charge of his map room, told him that the Germans had surrendered.** "For five years you've brought me bad news, sometimes worse than others," Churchill remarked. "Now you have redeemed yourself."

By this point, the public had become tired of repeated announcements, which were then contradicted, that peace was at hand. "Churchill had said previously that he wouldn't hold up the news for a minute," grumbled one member of the public, "and yet here were the papers with definite statements that the war in Europe was over, and articles giving the highlights of the war, and no word from him." Such frustrations were forgotten when Churchill broadcast at 3pm the following day, designated VE Day. Crowds in Whitehall, listening to the speech on specially erected loudspeakers, hung on his every word. There were whoops of joy and the waving of flags and hats at the moment in his speech when he declared that the German war was at an end.

According to the BBC's Listener Research Department, Churchill's speech was heard by 71.5 per cent of the potential audience. Having promised "a brief period of rejoicing" Churchill noted that the war with Japan was not yet over, and concluded: "Advance, Britannia! Long live the cause of freedom! God save the King!" Churchill's doctor, Lord Moran, heard the speech in the House of Lords library. The peer next to him thought it odd that there was no reference to God in the speech. Moran noted: "There was, however, no doubt in Winston's mind to whom the credit was due."

**EXPERT BIO**

Image source: University of Exeter

**PROFESSOR RICHARD TOYE**

Professor Richard Toye is Head of History at the University of Exeter. He's written three books on Winston Churchill, and other works on British politics, economics and empire. His new book, *Winston Churchill: A Life In The News*, is available from 14 May from Oxford University Press.

Before the broadcast, Churchill had lunch with King George VI. Afterwards, he went to the House of Commons. Harold Nicolson MP described how he came into the chamber "looking coy and cheerful" and was greeted with rapturous enthusiasm. Having repeated his radio statement, he then moved "that this House do now attend at the Church of St Margaret, Westminster, to give humble and reverent thanks to Almighty God for our deliverance from the threat of German domination". After the thanksgiving service was over, MPs returned to the Commons, and the House adjourned just after 4.30pm. After a meeting at Buckingham Palace with the

HELP HIM finish the Job
VOTE NATIONAL
FOR PROSPERITY
LABOUR
FOR THE FUTURE
LIBERAL

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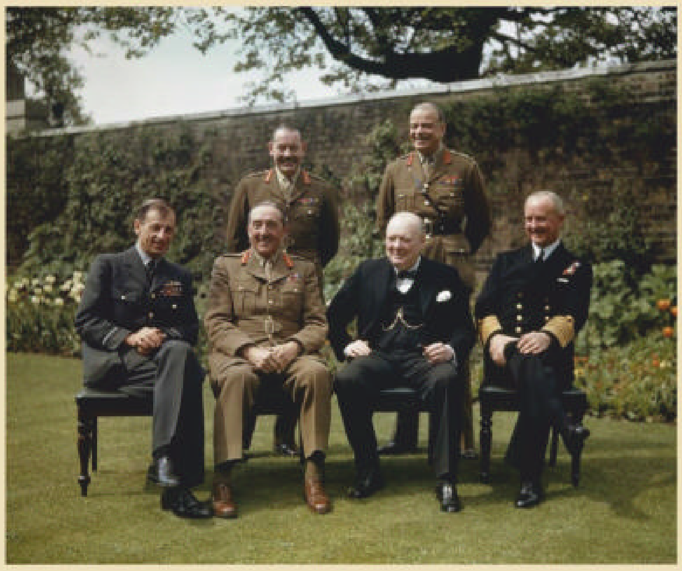

king, the War Cabinet and the chiefs of staff, Churchill placated the public who had assembled in Whitehall by appearing on the balcony of the Ministry of Health. "This is your victory," he told them. "No," they shouted back, "it's yours."

Later he dined with family members, the press proprietor Lord Camrose and the US ambassador. He then responded to the crowd's demands for another speech. "The lights went down and the bombs came down," he said. "But every man, woman and child in the country had no thought of quitting the struggle."

Mary E Lelean, a clerk in the Auxiliary Territorial Service, observed the scene: "Personally, I have no great admiration for the man Churchill, but as a war leader he has been unsurpassed, and his command of the language is wonderful. He recited the verse of *Rule Britannia*, then lifted his hand, and with a tuneless voice roared out the first notes of the chorus: 'R... Rule...' And the crowd took up the refrain. It was impossible not to be moved."

Churchill spent the rest of the evening with Camrose, before tackling a six-inch-high pile of papers that he intended to deal with before he went to bed.

These, of course, had been the hours of Churchill's greatest ascendancy. But it had not been without its cares. Behind the scenes there was friction with the Soviets: Stalin had wanted the announcement of victory postponed by a day, a seemingly trivial point that reflected the ongoing tensions between the Allies. The moment, moreover, was bittersweet. Churchill knew that he could never expect to experience such a high-point again. Equally importantly, the war was not yet finished, as he had striven to remind the British people amidst their rejoicing. And in the aftermath of the European victory, Labour and the Liberals withdrew from Churchill's coalition; he then formed a new caretaker government to run the country until the general election. When the votes were counted, it was revealed that the Conservatives had suffered a spectacular defeat. Even on VE Day itself, the warmth of the public response to Churchill the war leader had been tinged with reservations about Churchill the politician; and the voters decided that the man who had won the war was not the man to win the peace. His day of triumph, then, contained the seeds of his forthcoming tragedy.

**TOP** Churchill's popularity as a war leader didn't help him at the ballot box

**ABOVE** Churchill sitting in the garden of 10 Downing Street with his chiefs of staff the day before VE Day

**RIGHT** Churchill had been at the heart of government messaging during the war, but the same strategy failed in the July 1945 election when the Conservatives lost to Labour

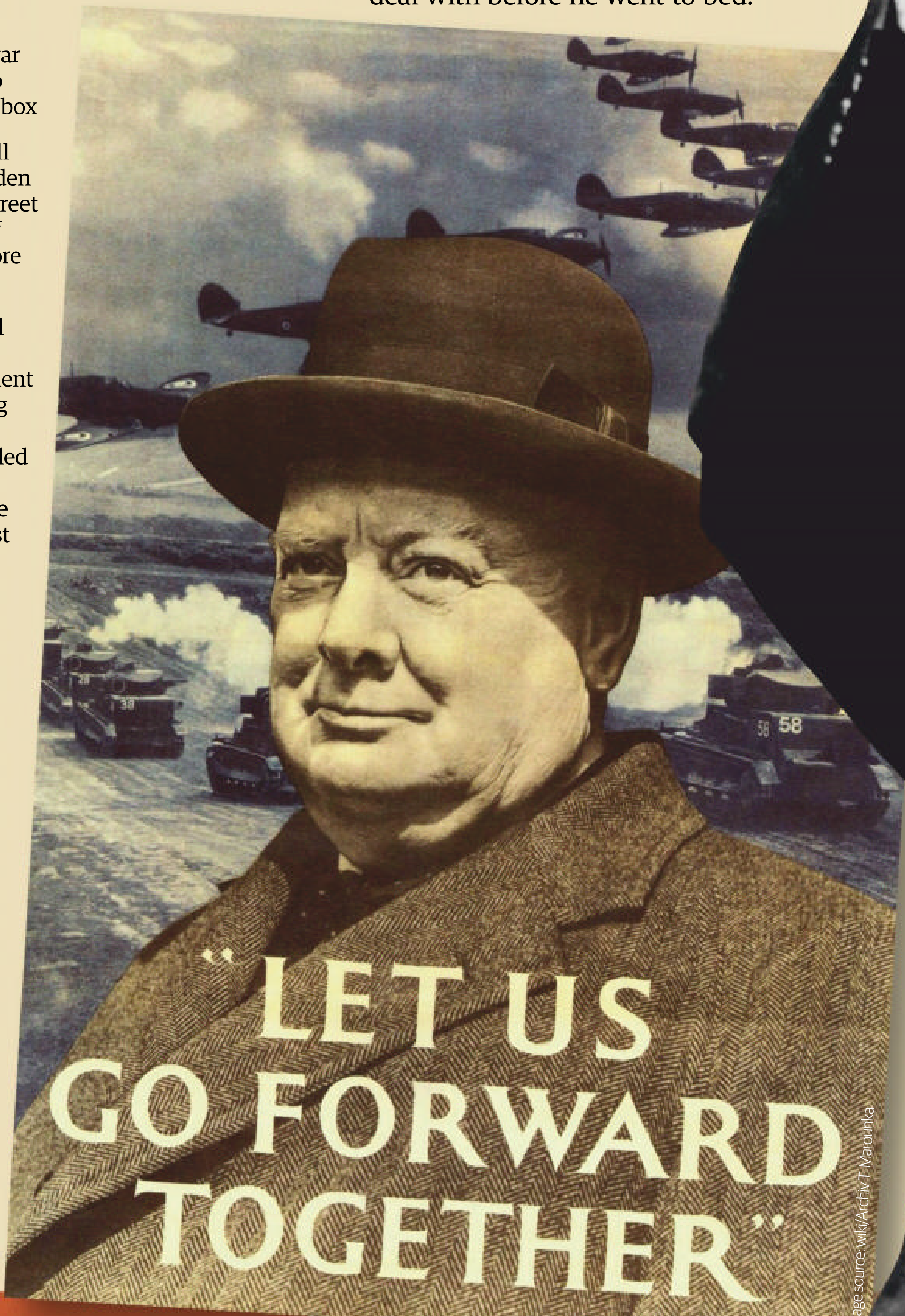
"LET US GO FORWARD TOGETHER"

Image source: wiki/Archiv T Marounka

Churchill throws his famous two-fingered salute

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# THE AFTERMATH

The war in Europe officially ended in May 1945, but violence and chaos still reigned in much of the continent

## GERMANY

After years of bombing, and a massive invasion by the Soviet, American, British and French armies, Germany was a nation in ruins. But the societal collapse was almost as bad as the physical destruction. By the end of 1945, official food rations in the British and French zones of the country dropped to around 1,000 calories a day – less than half what an average adult needs to survive. To get food, German civilians resorted to prostitution, looting, the black market, rioting and violent crime. The total breakdown of law and order lasted more than a year.

© Getty Images

## FRANCE

After the liberation of France, parts of the country were consumed by the desire for revenge. Between D-Day and VE Day, at least 10,000 French collaborators are thought to have been summarily executed by members of the Resistance. Clandestine prisons were set up, where suspected collaborators were subjected to torture. Often, however, these violent impulses were directed predominantly against women who had slept with German soldiers. In at least 50 major towns women were beaten, stripped naked and paraded before their neighbours. Their heads were shaved as a visible symbol of their shame.

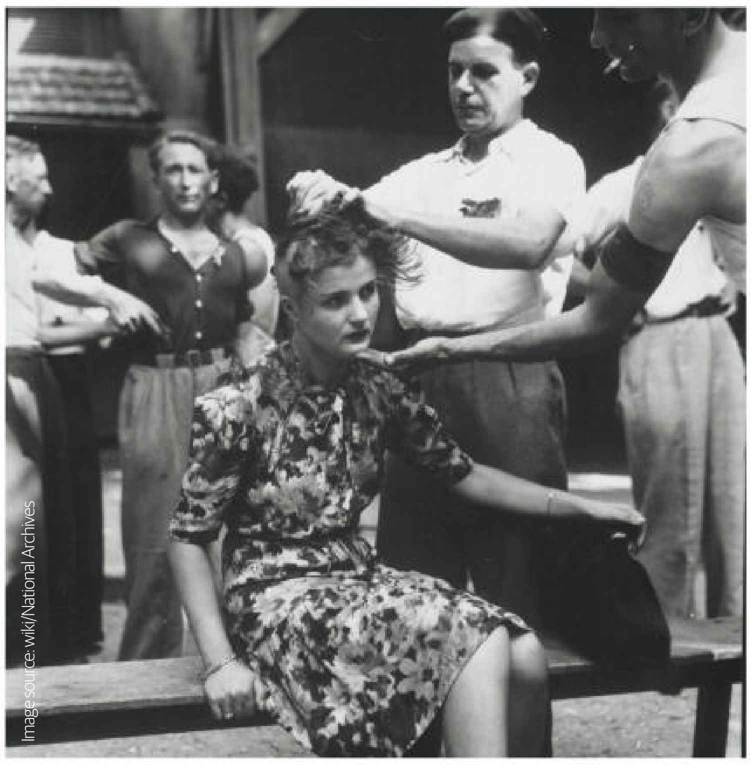
Image source: wiki/National Archives

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Map by: Swanston Map Archive Limited

## ITALY

Violent revenge against Fascists and collaborators was even more common in northern Italy than it was in France. In April and May 1945 alone, between 12,000 and 20,000 Fascists were killed on the streets of Italy. Part of the reason for the violence was that, after more than 20 years of Fascist rule, Italians had no faith in any kind of official justice. Resistance movements, particularly the Communist partisans, refused to give up their weapons. By 1948, continuing unrest had brought the country to a state of emergency, and order was only restored by draconian measures such as mass arrests.

## EUROPE'S JEWS

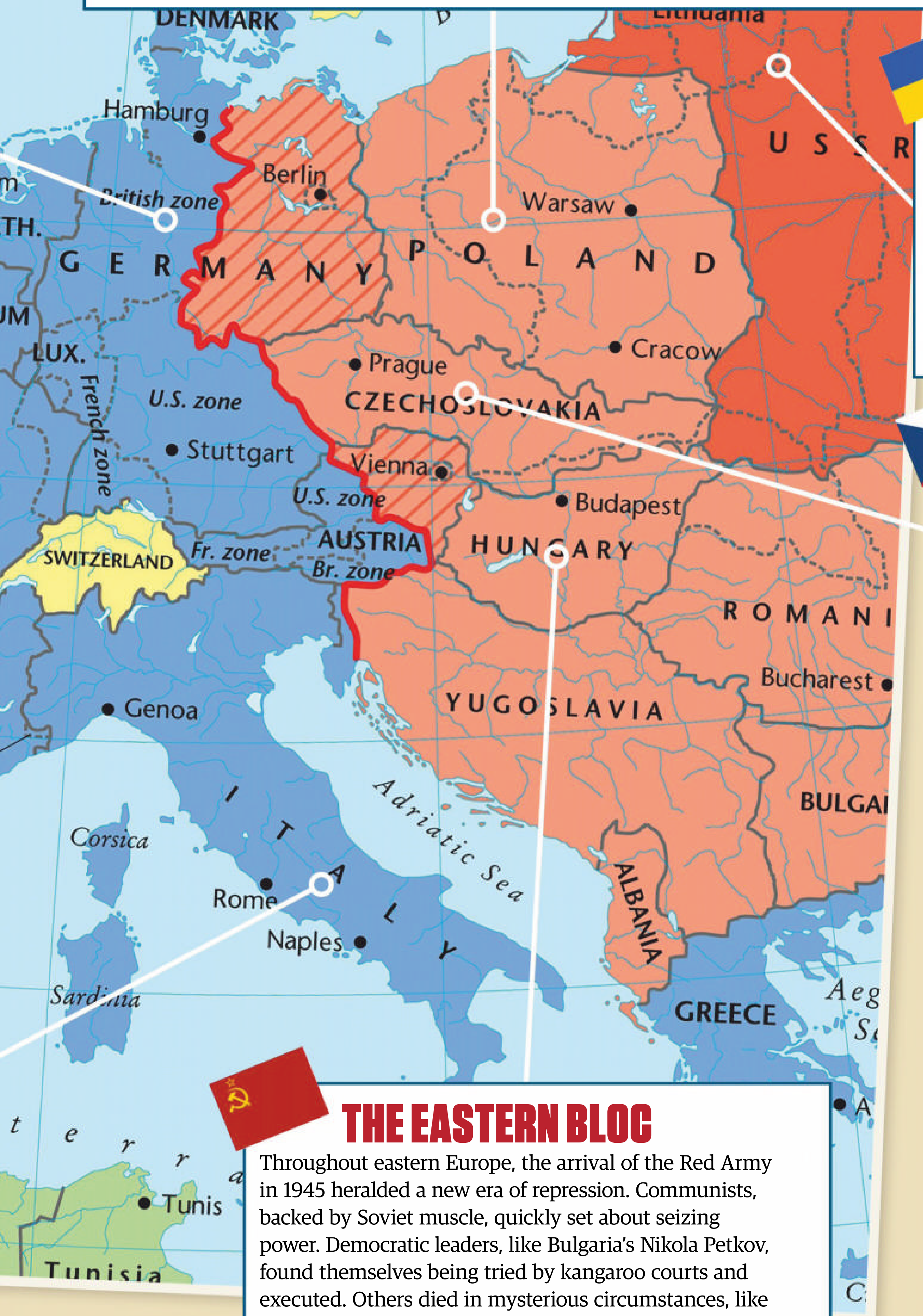
Almost six million Jews were systematically murdered during the war. Tragically for the survivors, 1945 did not bring an end to their tribulations. Jews who returned to their communities were not always welcomed by populations that had long since claimed Jewish homes and property for themselves. In parts of Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland renewed anti-Semitic violence broke out in 1946. Most famously, at least 42 were killed in the Polish town of Kielce during a pogrom that July. Convinced that Europe no longer held a place for them, hundreds of thousands of Jews fled for new homes in Britain, America and Palestine.

Image source: wiki/Uri Dan

## POLAND

At the Allied conference at Yalta in February 1945, the Soviet Union claimed a large part of Poland as its own. In compensation, Poland was to be given parts of Germany. These border changes, which took place after the war, had huge and destructive consequences for millions of people. Not only were Germans expelled from the new parts of western Poland, but a massive population exchange also took place in the east between Poland and the USSR. For Ukrainians and Poles, who were already involved in a civil war over territory, this only caused further savagery and ethnic strife.

Image source: wiki/Wojskowa Agencja Fotograficzna



### KEY

🟥 Soviet Union from May 1945

— Western limit of Soviet occupation or influence mid-1945

🟦 Occupied by Western forces or pro-western in sympathy

🟧 Soviet occupied or control

▨ Soviet zones of Germany and Austria

🟩 Colonial Territories

🟨 Neutral

## UKRAINE AND THE BALTIC STATES

When the Red Army liberated these countries from the Nazis, they also took away their independence. Against the will of their populations, Ukraine, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia were all subsumed back into the Soviet Union. As a consequence, hundreds of thousands of people fled to the forests. Here they waged a guerrilla campaign against Russian troops that lasted well into the 1950s and claimed tens of thousands of lives. Today, Baltic historians and politicians often claim that the Second World War did not end in 1945, but only in the 1990s when the last Soviet tanks left the region.

## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

In the aftermath of the war, much of Czechoslovakia was inflamed with anti-German sentiment. The returning president, Edvard Beneš, announced that the entire German nation deserved "the limitless contempt of all mankind", and that people of German ethnicity should no longer be welcome in their country. A series of lynchings and massacres quickly developed into an organised expulsion of the entire German population, some three million people in total. They joined nine million other ethnic Germans expelled from other countries in the region. They suffered such cruelty and hardship that around half a million are thought to have died.

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## THE EASTERN BLOC

Throughout eastern Europe, the arrival of the Red Army in 1945 heralded a new era of repression. Communists, backed by Soviet muscle, quickly set about seizing power. Democratic leaders, like Bulgaria's Nikola Petkov, found themselves being tried by kangaroo courts and executed. Others died in mysterious circumstances, like Czechoslovakia's Jan Masaryk, who 'fell' from a window of the Czech Foreign Ministry. The remainder were either arrested or fled their countries to escape the purge. By 1948, the Communist transformation was complete: in Churchill's famous words, an Iron Curtain had been drawn from the Baltic to the Black Sea.

### EXPERT BIO

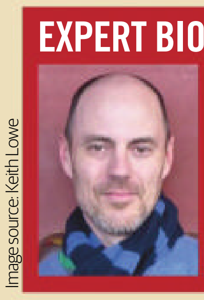

Image source: Keith Lowe

### KEITH LOWE

Keith Lowe is the author of *Savage Continent: Europe In The Aftermath Of World War II*. His latest book, *Prisoners Of History: What Monuments To The Second World War Tell Us About Our History And Ourselves*, is published by HarperCollins.

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# MURDER IN MINIATURE

## How a 69-year-old grandmother revolutionised forensic science through the use of grim and grisly dollhouses

Written by Callum McKelvie

**In the field of forensic science, Lee was an agent of change – a reformer, educator, and activist. She picked up the torch to ensure that forensic science took root in the US," says Bruce Goldfarb, author of *18 Tiny Deaths,* a new book looking at the work of Frances Glessner Lee.**

Born in 1878, Lee was a pioneer in the field of forensic science, but it is one particular contribution, that of *The Nutshell Studies Of Unexplained Death*, which has become her most lasting legacy. These 18 'dollhouse' style dioramas were created by Lee with the intention of training recruits to understand that the tiniest details can solve a case. In order to achieve this, Lee put an extraordinary amount of detail into the dioramas, keen to make sure that every single one would be assessed and noted by her students.

"The craftsmanship is extraordinary," explains Goldfarb. "Lee spared no expense. She had real front pages of newspapers photographically reproduced and made into a printing block for a single impression. Tiny hand-rolled cigarettes. One diorama has a sewing machine that's about an inch long. Not only does that sewing machine have a needle, but that needle is threaded. Many of the dioramas have details that aren't visible at all: a poster inside a saloon and graffiti inside a jail cell. Each diorama cost about as much as a real house to make."

The genius on show in the making of the Nutshell dioramas is extraordinary. Lee would repurpose over-the-counter Benzedrine inhalers to make street-corner fire hydrants, and stuffed dolls with a mix of cotton and BB shot in order to mimic the correct heft and weight of a corpse. Certain figures even have their legs and arms positioned to show that rigor mortis has already set in.

> "Lee stuffed dolls with a mix of cotton and BB shot to mimic the correct heft and weight of a corpse"

But who exactly was Lee? And what led a 69-year-old to create such grisly yet fascinating murder scenes?

Born into the wealthy Glessner family, Lee was the only daughter of a rich industrialist and had a childhood of affluence and privilege. Homeschooled, she showed a fiery intelligence and was educated in the arts, music, natural sciences, classics, literature, languages and a variety of other subjects. As is well noted, during her childhood she was a passionate admirer of the Sherlock Holmes stories of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Famously, it was Holmes' ability to spot what others had missed that more often than not solved the crime and saved the day. Lee married at 20 and had three children with her husband. However, the marriage proved to be anything but a match made in heaven and, controversially for the period, Lee filed for divorce.

It was in 1929 during a particularly low point for Lee that she would be introduced to the subject of legal medicine, which would then develop into a lifelong obsession. This was all ▶

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due to the influence of the man who can rightly claim to be America's first forensic pathologist. As Goldfarb explains, he was "a Harvard classmate of her brother, a doctor named George Burgess Magrath who was a medical examiner in Boston. Magrath was the first pathologist to serve as medical examiner in the US. He handled the 1919 Boston Molasses Disaster and was the medical examiner on the Sacco and Vanzetti case".

Of their friendship, Goldfarb states: "Magrath seems to be the only one who really 'got' Lee. They had so many common interests: music, art, literature. For several years, until Magrath's death, they were very close friends. She supported him financially. There was great affection between them, but not in a romantic or sexual way. They never used terms of endearment, even in private. He was always Dr Magrath and she was always Mrs Frances G Lee."

Magrath was Lee's way into the male dominated world of medical science, and she began her career in the early 1930s when she was already in her 50s. Around the same time Lee inherited her father's fortune, and with this money could afford to put her developing theories to the test.

There was one particular area which both Lee and Magrath were keen to change and this was to initiate a move away from coroner inquests towards a more contemporary scientific system. In the various US states the level of control they were able to establish differed but the changes they did implement had a profound effect. However, Lee knew that this was merely one stage in the establishment of a more focussed and scientific approach to solving crime.

As Goldfarb explains: "Lee said three things were required to transition from the archaic coroner system to a modern science-based medical examiner system:

"Firstly, state laws to abolish coroners and coroner inquests and authorise a medical examiner, and in places with medical examiners to reform laws to give them more authority, independence and autonomy. Secondly, a cadre of qualified doctors trained in legal medicine to serve as medical examiners. Thirdly, trained police officers, who are the first responders and must be able to recognize, preserve, and process evidence at the scene.

"Lee was active in all of these areas. She established the Department of Legal Medicine at Harvard to train doctors, lobbied tirelessly in many states to reform laws, and established the intensive week-long seminar in homicide investigation for police officers."

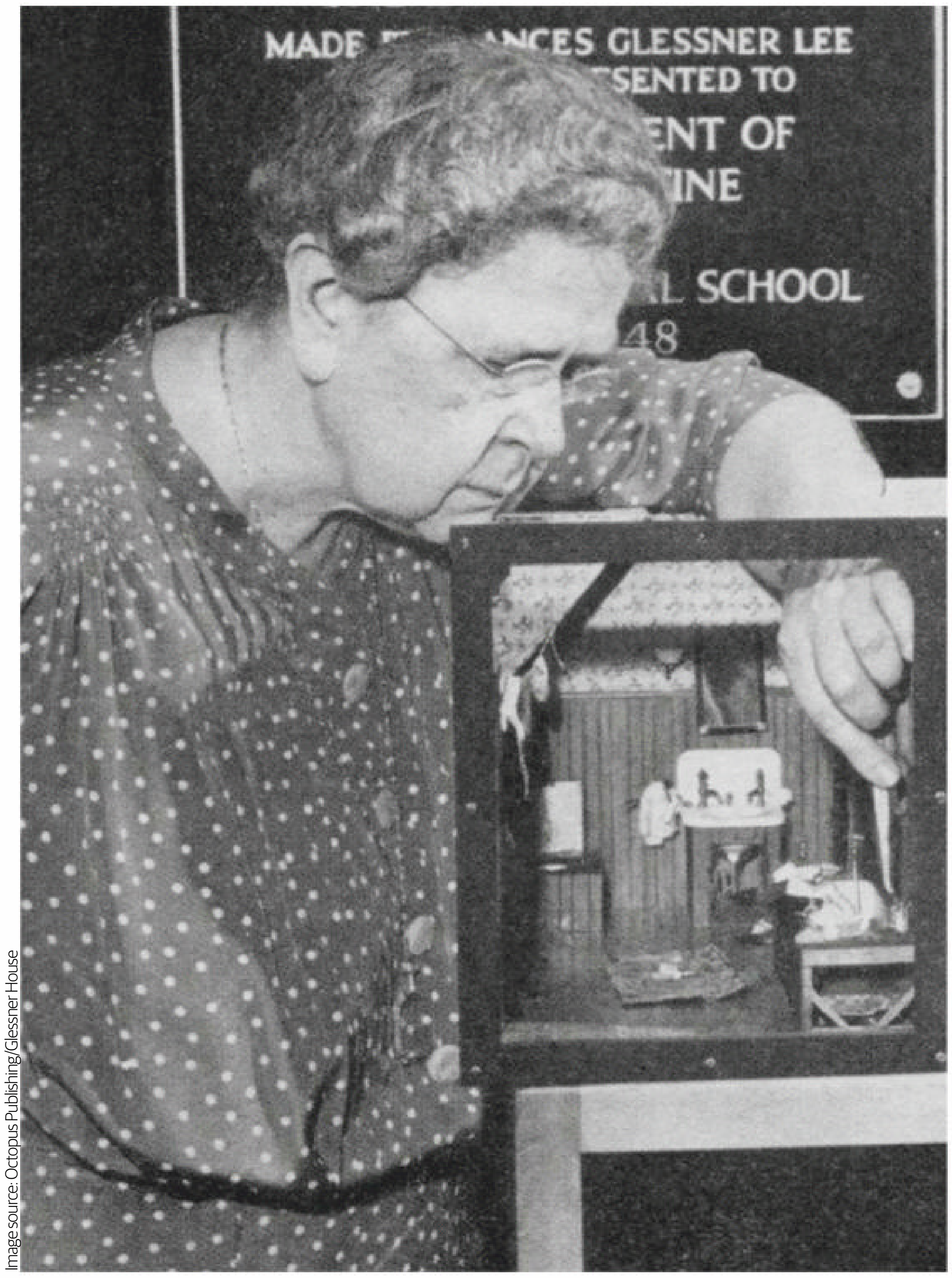
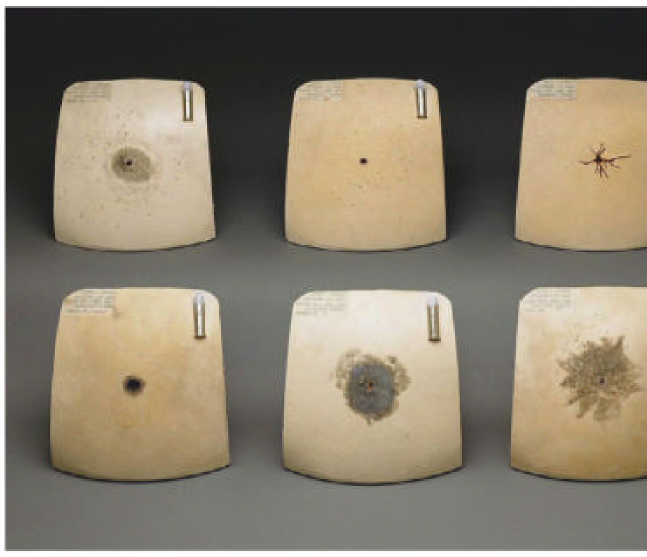
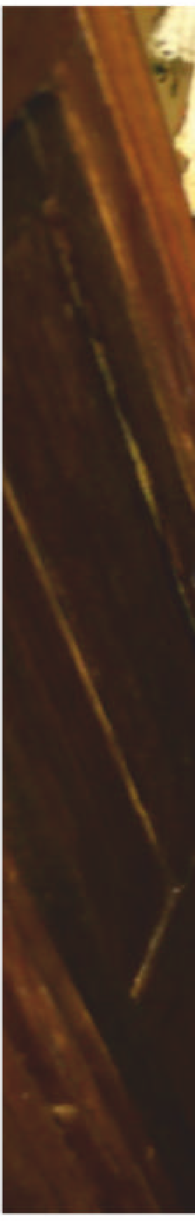


Image source: Octopus Publishing/Glessner House





2x Image source: The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Baltimore

**ABOVE-LEFT** Lee's dioramas have been used to train generations of police officers

**TOP** A series of ceramic plates commissioned by Lee showing typical wound patterns caused by gunshots

**ABOVE** This Nutshell even features tiny hand-rolled cigarettes

## PERRY MASON INFLUENCE

### How the beloved crime novels were inspired by Lee's Nutshells

THE
ERLE STANLEY GARDNER
The Case of the VELVET CLAWS
A Perry Mason Mystery
THE NEW PERRY MASON
THE CASE OF THE WISTFUL WID
VELVET

© Getty Images

During her lifetime Frances Glessner Lee had become well-known in the field of forensics and criminal investigation. And it was the Nutshells and famous seminars that brought her to the attention of one of the world's most widely read authors, Erle Stanley Gardner.

Introduced in 1933 in *The Case Of The Velvet Claws*, the character of Perry Mason is the lead in his popular series of crime novels whose sales have been beaten only by the *Goosebumps* and *Harry Potter* series. Mason is a criminal defence lawyer who frequently accepts clients on a whim and subsequently becomes involved in solving the crime himself. With some 82 novels and four short story collections, Mason's creator Gardner was himself a lawyer. He began by defending poor people, in particular immigrants, and would later be instrumental in the founding of the Court Of The Last Resort, an organisation which dedicated itself to helping those who were wrongly imprisoned.

*The Case Of The Dubious Bridegroom*, the 33rd book in the series, was dedicated to Lee, and in the introduction Gardner explained how he'd attended one of her police training seminars. As far as anyone can tell, this makes him the only civilian ever to have had attended one of her seminars, which were invitation-only. In the introduction, he was full of praise for Lee's work and that of her students.

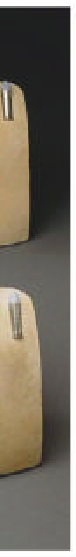
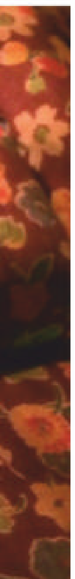


Image source: wiki/Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Baltimore, Maryland



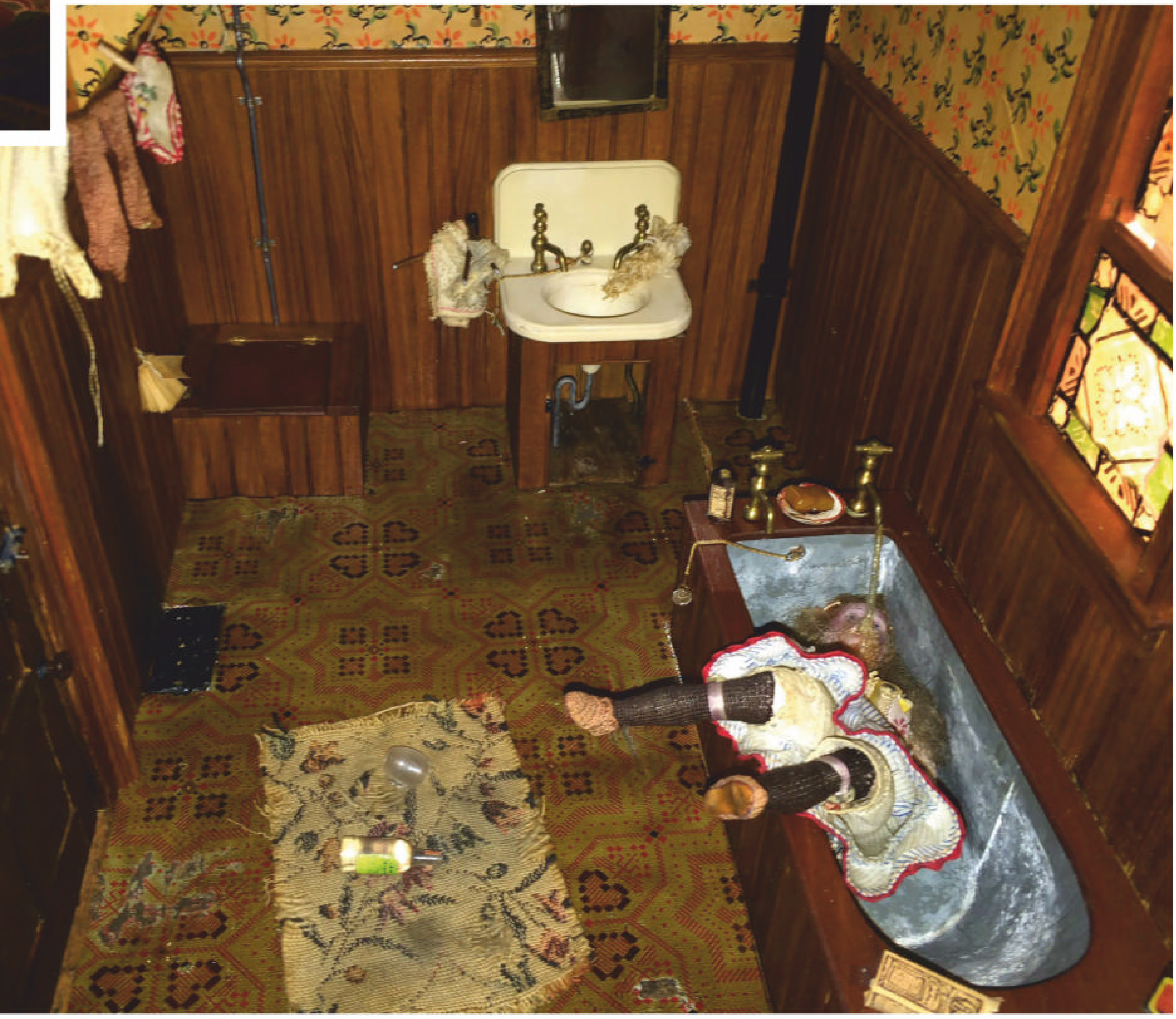
In 1931 she founded Harvard's Department Of Legal Medicine. In particular she was very keen that the department give its students access to the best resources possible, creating a rich library related to the subject of murder. "When she was working on founding the Department of Legal Medicine she wanted it equipped second-to-none," explains Goldfarb. "She spared no expense, and purchased many rare and valuable manuscripts. When the George Burgess Magrath Library Of Legal Medicine opened in 1933, it was the largest of its kind in the world with more than 1,000 volumes. Within 15 years the library had more than 3,000 volumes."

In 1943, New Hampshire State Police appointed Lee as their first female police captain and educational director. Lee had long been annoyed that young police officers were not being taught the value of circumstantial evidence or how to secure a crime scene for forensic teams. Using her knowledge and experience as a craftswoman, taught to her by her mother in her youth, Lee began to imagine a way to combine this with her work at the Department of Legal Medicine. She envisaged a seminar series like no other.

Goldfarb describes how Lee came up with the idea: "It was pretty obvious, an easy leap. Lee had extensive experience with miniatures. No other media was adequate. Lee said that what photos and film lacked was the fourth dimension: time. The ability to look as long as you want, at whatever you want, to come back a day later or a year later and check some hypotheses. There is just no substitute for a real three-dimensional object to observe. The brilliance is that the dioramas demonstrate that you don't have to walk through a crime scene to get information. You can learn a lot just by looking."

Lee would make 20 Nutshells in all, although she had plans for 50 and was working on at least three others up to her death. Of the 20, 19 were used for teaching, but for a long time only 18 were known to exist. The names are simple and state only the area in question, giving no clues as to their occupants or the incidents (except 'Burned Cabin'). Usually their names are along the lines of 'Unpapered bedroom', 'Garage' or 'Two-Storey Porch'.

> "Lee was keen to show that every death deserves the same thorough, careful investigation"



**BELOW** The 'Dark Bathroom' demonstrates Lee's desire to portray gritty, realistic settings

Lee was keen to make her dioramas as true to life and realistic as possible. Her scenes featured, among other gruesome spectacles, infant death, domestic violence and alcoholism. Her contemporaries rarely, if ever, included figures within their scenes, but in Lee's Nutshells the dolls play an important role. After all, every murder scene has to have a victim. Several of the Nutshells show their characters in the midst of domestic tasks. 'Kitchen', for example, features a housewife lying next to a spilt tray of ice cubes, a pie half way out of the oven and a pan of peeled potatoes on the draining board. These are rooms that their occupants have lived in and the characters featured perfectly match their surroundings. Given that many of the victims featured are working class or of little means, Lee puts their poverty front and centre.

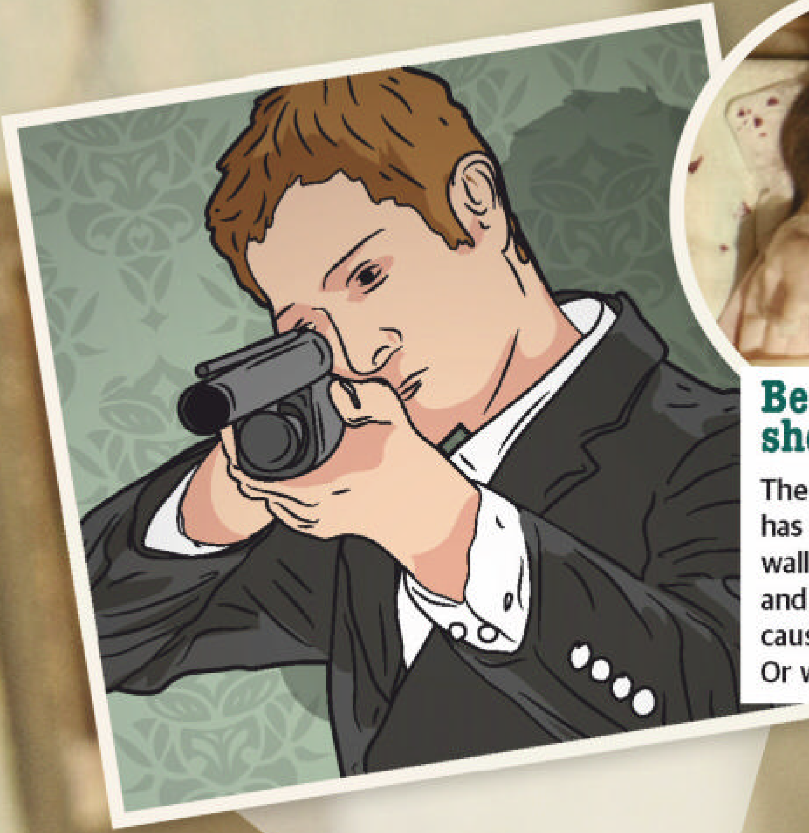
"Lee was keen to show that every death deserves the same thorough, careful investigation," says Goldfarb. "Some people make a lot out of the fact that so many victims in the dioramas are women, they are marginalised people, etc. All true. This gives the dioramas a sad and haunting quality that comes from a strange sense of realism, despite the dolls' rag bodies. Two or three of the miniatures depict middle class families or those with wealth, but the others show sex workers, lodging houses and desperate people. Perhaps this is what makes the miniatures so shocking, even some 75 years after their conception."

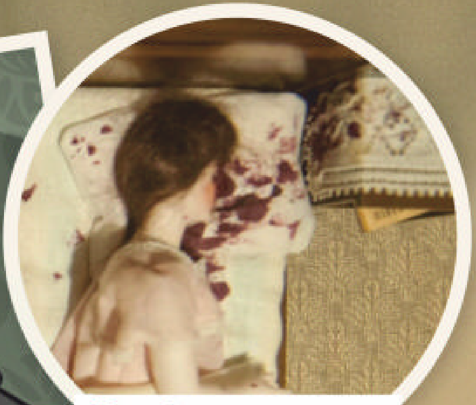
In terms of the miniature as an art form Lee's approach was fairly unique, and there's no better example of this than her friend and neighbour Narcissa Niblack Thorne. Thorne was also a miniaturist and created the famous 'Thorne' rooms, many of which are housed at the Art Institute Of Chicago. In stark contrast to the Nutshells however, the Thorne rooms show the interiors of famous historical houses. In particular she depicted the interiors of stately homes and palaces from Asia, Europe and North America from the 13th to the early 20th century. They feature lavish furniture, sparkling chandeliers and even original works of art. Lee's dioramas on the other hand feature worn carpets, wallpaper that's torn and faded, and stained floorboards, often reflecting the poverty of those who lived within them. ▶

# PLAY DETECTIVE

## Can you spot the clues and solve the mystery?

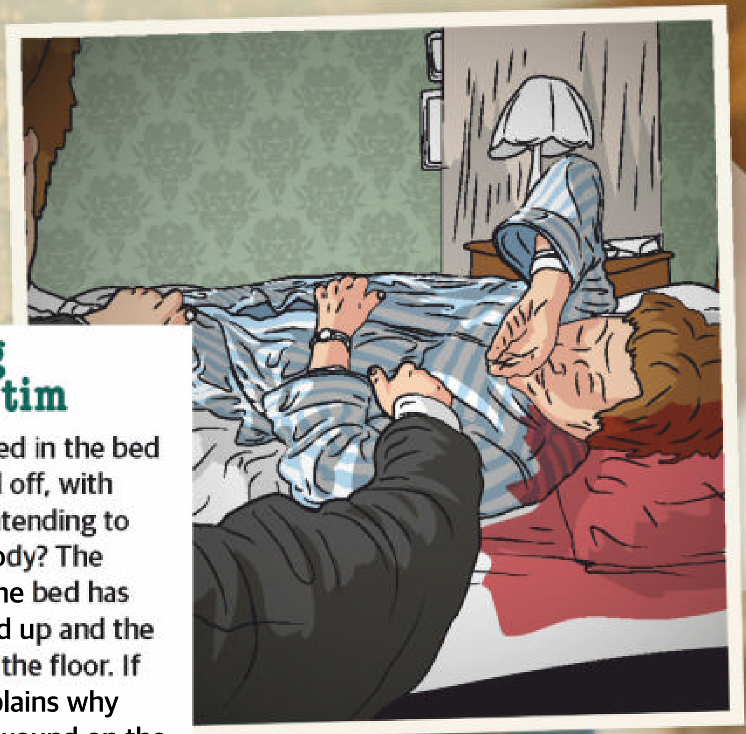
Francis Glessner Lee's Nutshell diorama recreates every last detail of a double murder scene and is still used today to train police officers in forensic crime scene investigation. Take a close look to see if you can solve the crime, but remember – the devil is in the detail!





### Beaten or shot dead?

The woman's blood has splattered up the wall. Has the angle and force of the blow caused this to happen? Or was a gun used?

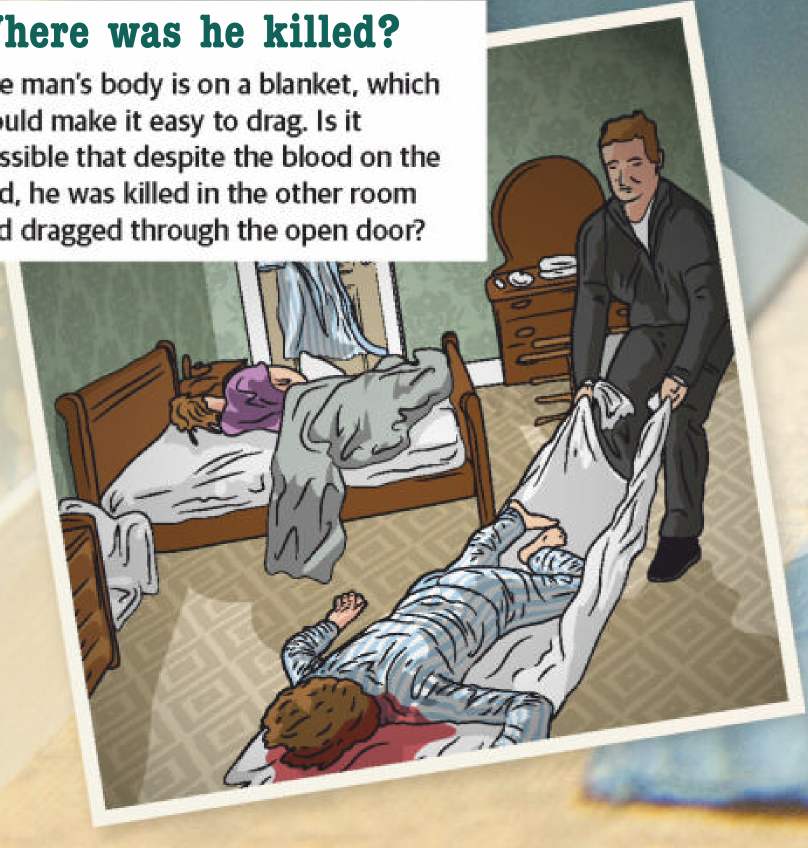


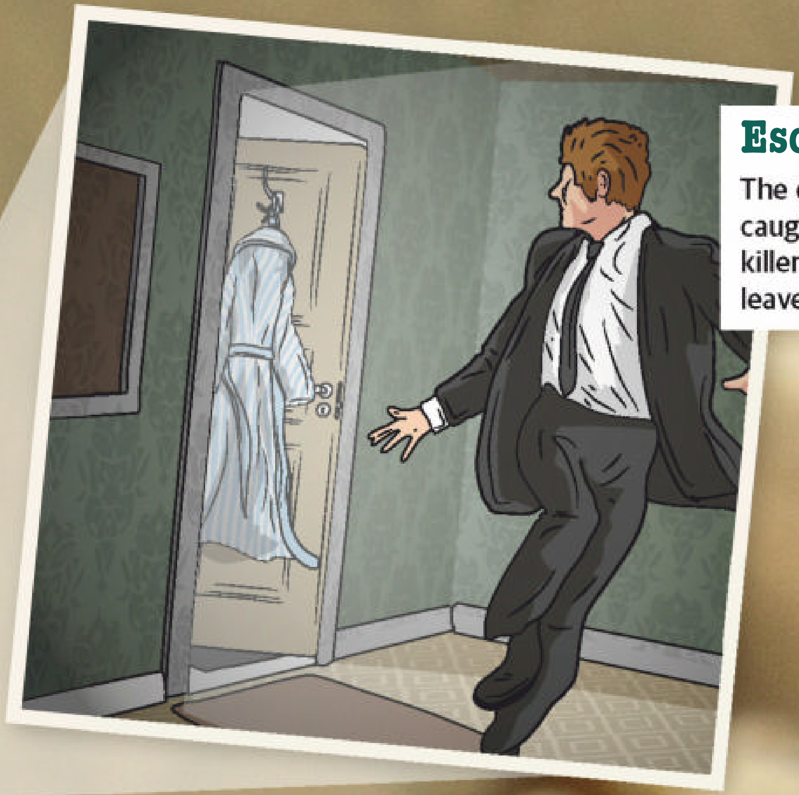
### Moving the victim

Was he killed in the bed then pulled off, with the killer intending to drag the body? The corner of the bed has been folded up and the pillow's on the floor. If so, this explains why there's no wound on the back of his head – was he killed facing up?

### Where was he killed?

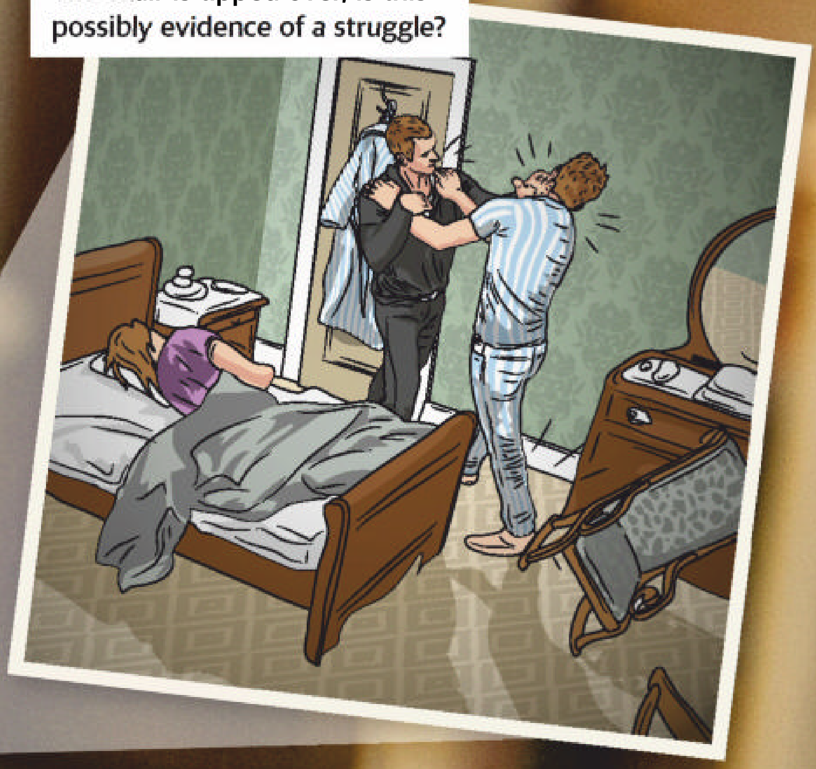
The man's body is on a blanket, which would make it easy to drag. Is it possible that despite the blood on the bed, he was killed in the other room and dragged through the open door?





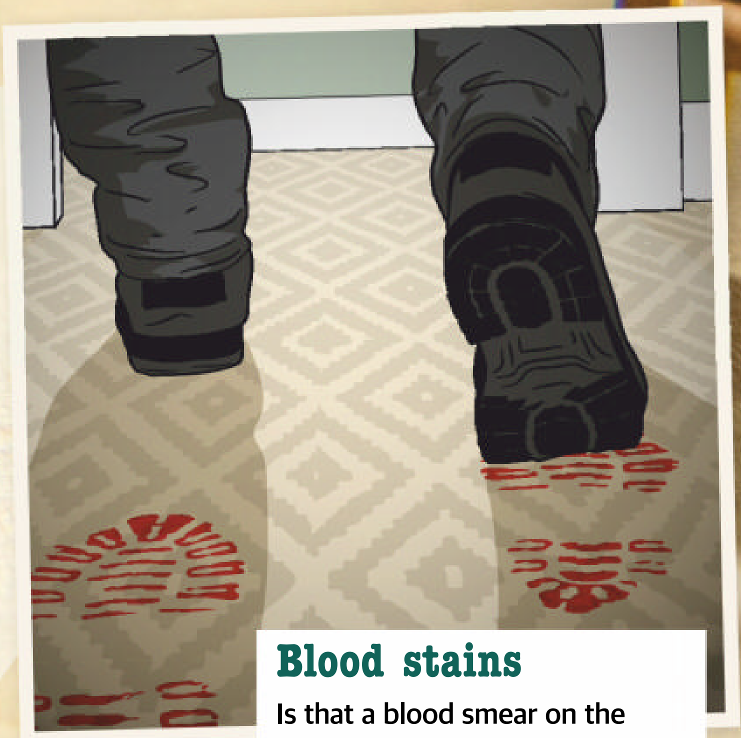
### Escape route

The dressing gown is caught in the door. Did the killer flee through here and leave in a hurry?



### Was there a fight?

The chair is tipped over, is this possibly evidence of a struggle?



### Blood stains

Is that a blood smear on the floor near the open door? Or are they in fact bloody footprints?

2x © Alamy
6x Illustrations by: Ed Crooks

2x © Getty Images

**ABOVE** Nutshells on display at the Smithsonian's Renwick Gallery

> "Lee's responsible for everything we've come to expect from a CSI-type investigation"

Yet the Thorne rooms, for all their beauty, lack a distinct something in comparison to Lee's work.

"I think if you look at a Thorne room, beautiful and perfect with nothing out of place, it lacks a sense of people," says Goldfarb. "The homes of real people are more textured, with things that are older and worn, some things broken. It's visually more interesting."

But what of the two missing dioramas? "Only 19 of them were used for teaching," says Goldfarb. "One diorama, called 'Sitting Room and Woodshed', was finished and for some reason returned to Lee's estate for a photo shoot. It never returned to Harvard and was not used for teaching. This 'missing' diorama was found in the eaves of a building at the estate, in very bad shape. It was filled with dirt, parts were broken. It looked terrible. Nonetheless, it was put on display at the Wellcome Collection in 2015. It has since been cleaned, conserved, and repaired. There was another diorama, 'Two Rooms', that was apparently irreparably damaged or destroyed in the 1960s. I've not been able to find out what happened to it."

The impact of Lee's seminar series is beyond question and was integral to increasing the importance and understanding of forensics. In fact, the seminar Lee started in 1945 still continues to this day, though renamed in her honour. "The Lee Seminar In Homicide Investigation has changed little since 1945," says Goldfarb. "Most of the topics are still the same: penetrating injuries, blunt-force injuries, poisonings, etc. Very little has changed in the facts of violent death. The seminar is very traditional. Participants still get a diploma that says Harvard Associates In Police Science, they still take a group photo and they still have a fancy dinner at one of the best restaurants in Baltimore. They don't eat off special gilt-edged china, but it's a pretty good meal." Among aspiring police officers, Lee's seminar is considered the best.

Her influence does not end there, however, and can be seen in numerous fields relating to medical science. For example the 1950 film *Mystery Street*, made with the input of Harvard's Division Of Medical Sciences, was the first murder-mystery to place an emphasis on realism and on crime scene examination in particular. "It's the first modern ripped-from-the-headlines procedural forensic drama, the first film to feature a medical examiner," says Goldfarb. "*Mystery Street* is the forebear of *Quincy*, *CSI* and all the forensic shows that have followed. Lee is responsible for everything we have come to know and expect in a *CSI*-type crime scene investigation, in real life and in popular culture."

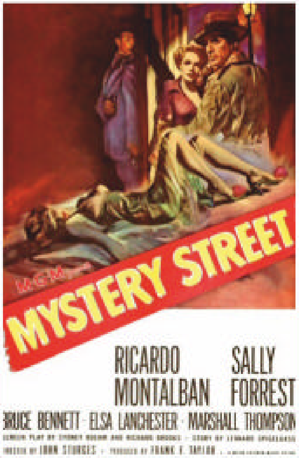
In 2017, the Nutshells were exhibited for the first time at the Renwick Gallery within the Smithsonian. They were exhibited in a darkened room along with the relevant witness statements, all of which are still used by the police in their seminars. Visitors were given torches and notepads, and were encouraged to examine the miniature murder scenes. The exhibition was a huge success and raised the status of the dioramas away from mere tools with which to train police officers. Being studied and appreciated by ordinary members of the public for the very first time cemented their status as works of art in their own right.

In terms of the history of forensics, the work of Lee and the role of the Nutshells has proven to have been an important, if incredibly unusual, step.

"She never officially stopped working on them, reveals Goldfarb. "Her eyes and fine motor skills eventually gave out, but she never gave up." The fact that 75 years after their inception the miniatures are still being used to train and teach police officers shows just how ahead of the curve Lee was. When summing up her role in the development of forensic science, Goldfarb says: "Lee's influence is immeasurable, it cannot be overstated." ○

## MYSTERY STREET

### The 1950 film noir that used Lee's groundbreaking methods


MYSTERY STREET
RICARDO MONTALBAN
SALLY FORREST
BRUCE BENNETT · ELSA LANCHESTER · MARSHALL THOMPSON

Starring Ricardo Montalban, 1950's *Mystery Street* tells the story of a police lieutenant who teams up with a Harvard doctor to use forensics to solve the murder of a pregnant woman. "Frances Glessner Lee actually pitched the idea for what would be called *Mystery Street*," says Goldfarb. "At the time, the studio was interested in a different kind of movie. After WWII, film audience tastes had changed. They wanted a more realistic story, done in a straightforward documentary style. The studio was intrigued, as crime stories and mysteries were age-old but had never featured a medical examiner. It was a new twist on an old idea. Lee suggested that the film be based on an actual case, which it was. Filmed at the height of the film noir boom, the film features many trappings of that genre, including a trenchcoated hero and an atmosphere of darkness and gritty realism. However, it's *Mystery Street*'s emphasis on the methodical approach to detection work that sets it apart from its contemporaries. Although not a huge success financially, it was critically well received and earned writer Leonard Spigelglass a nomination for Best Screenplay at the 23rd Academy Awards.

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**AA38110 Sopwith Camel F.1.** D3326, Lt. Wilfred Reid 'Wop' May, RAF No.209 Squadron, Bertangles, France, 21st April 1918, Death of the Red Baron

Scale 1:48 I Lengh 178mm

**AA38310 Fokker Dr.I Triplane** 161/17, Wolfram Freiherr von Richthofen, Jasta 11, JG.1, Cappy aerodrome, France, 21st April 1918, Death of the Red Baron

Scale 1:48 I Lengh 151mm

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# "WE'RE READY TO CRUNCH THE NUMBERS"

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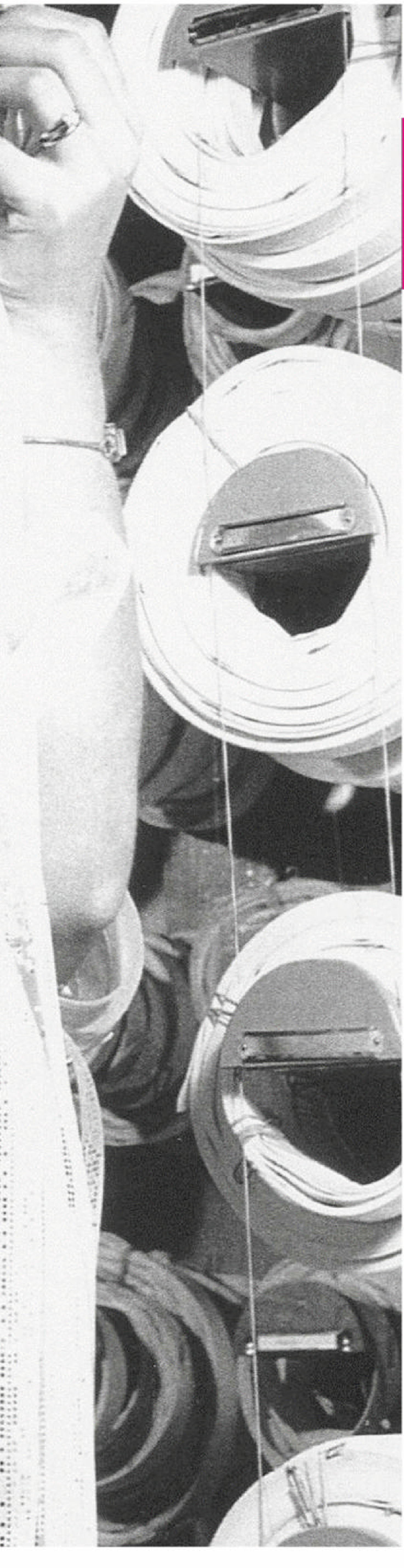

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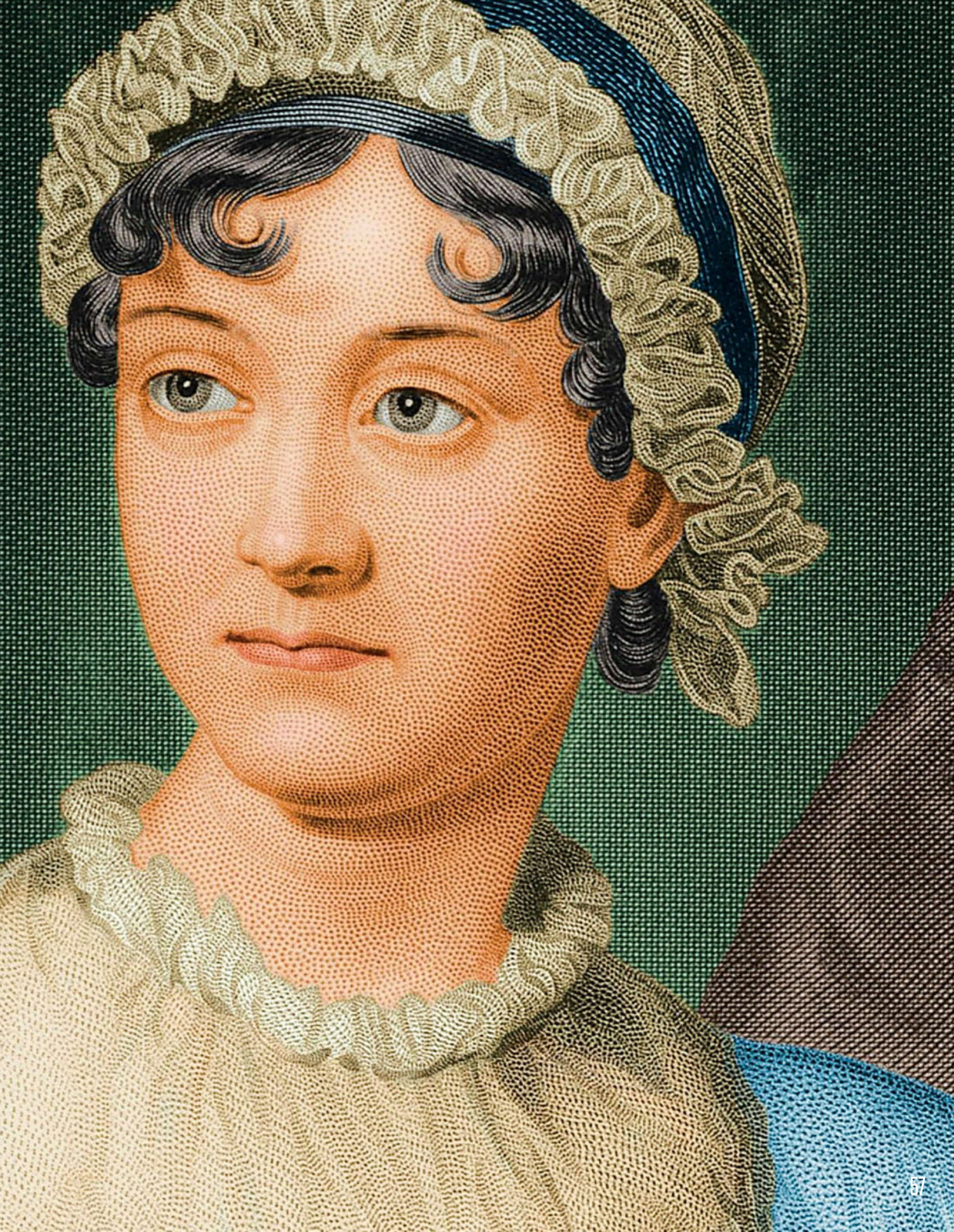
# What's So Great About Jane?

*Historian and author Lucy Worsley discusses the life, work and legacy of Jane Austen and why she continues to fascinate us*

**Written by Jessica Leggett**

© Alamy



Lucy Worsley is a celebrated history author and presenter who has written and presented numerous times on Austen's life

Image source: Bloomsbury Publishing/Daniel D Moses

**In the pantheon of great authors through history a few names instantly spring to mind.** William Shakespeare, obviously. Charles Dickens seems inarguable. Perhaps you're in the Mark Twain, George Orwell or Franz Kafka camps? But one of the few women whose place is cemented in such lists is Jane Austen. An author in the Georgian era, she is a colossus of her time who stands well above even some of the authors already mentioned in terms of popularity and cultural significance, not to mention the purely economic measure of sales. *Pride And Prejudice* alone has sold in excess of 20 million copies worldwide, which places it alongside *Animal Farm* and *Huckleberry Finn* in terms of reach. But where has Austen's longevity come from and to what extent is her writing reflective of the times she lived in? These were the questions we hoped to find answers to, but first some background on who she really was.

Jane Austen was born on 16 December 1775 in the village of Steventon, Hampshire, the second daughter of George Austen, a clergyman, and Cassandra Leigh. Jane had an older sister, also named Cassandra, and six brothers, James, George, Edward, Henry, Francis and Charles. The Austens may have been a large family but they were all very close and affectionate, with family bonds becoming an important theme of Jane's work.

Her passion for reading and writing was encouraged by her father, who allowed her to read books from his library, with Jane writing her own stories and poems from roughly around the age of 11. According to Cassandra, Jane read a novel entitled *Elinor And Marianne* to the family sometime before 1796, which was later revised and published as *Sense And Sensibility* in 1811. In 1796, she began working on a second novel, *First Impressions*, completing her first draft in 1797, which would eventually be published as *Pride And Prejudice*.

> *"Jane saw herself as part of a sisterhood of Georgian female novelists, such as Frances Burney and Maria Edgeworth"*

The Austens moved to Bath in 1801 after her father's retirement, and the following year Jane famously accepted a proposal from Mr Harris Bigg-Wither, only to revoke her acceptance the very next day when she realised she couldn't marry someone she had no affection for. In 1805, Jane's father passed away, leaving Jane, her sister and mother with little income to survive on. For the next few years the women moved several times until 1809, when they were offered a place to live on Edward's estate at Chawton, which he inherited from a distant, wealthy cousin.

It was at Chawton where Jane had the most productive writing period of her life, anonymously publishing four of her major works: *Sense And Sensibility*, *Pride And Prejudice*, *Mansfield Park* and *Emma*. Her brother, Henry, acted as her literary agent. Sadly, Jane's health began to deteriorate in 1816 and in May 1817 she left Chawton and moved to Winchester with Cassandra to be closer to her doctor. Just two months later, on 18 July 1817, Jane succumbed to her illness, which is believed today to have been Addison's disease, passing away in her sister's arms.

She was buried in the north aisle of the nave of Winchester Cathedral and Henry and Cassandra arranged for the publication of her last two complete novels, *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion*. Thanks to a biographical note written by Henry, Jane was identified as the author of all six novels for the first time. Since

1833, her works have never been out of print and are loved by millions of people around the world who adore her unique wit, humour and satire.

To dig into her life and history a little more we turned to a self-confessed Austen fan, Dr Lucy Worsley, who has published a biography of Jane titled *Jane Austen At Home: A Biography*, presented the BBC documentary *Jane Austen: Behind Closed Doors* and written a new novel, *The Austen Girls*, which is out this month. We asked her to offer us some insight into the life and work of one of the world's most celebrated authors.

* * *

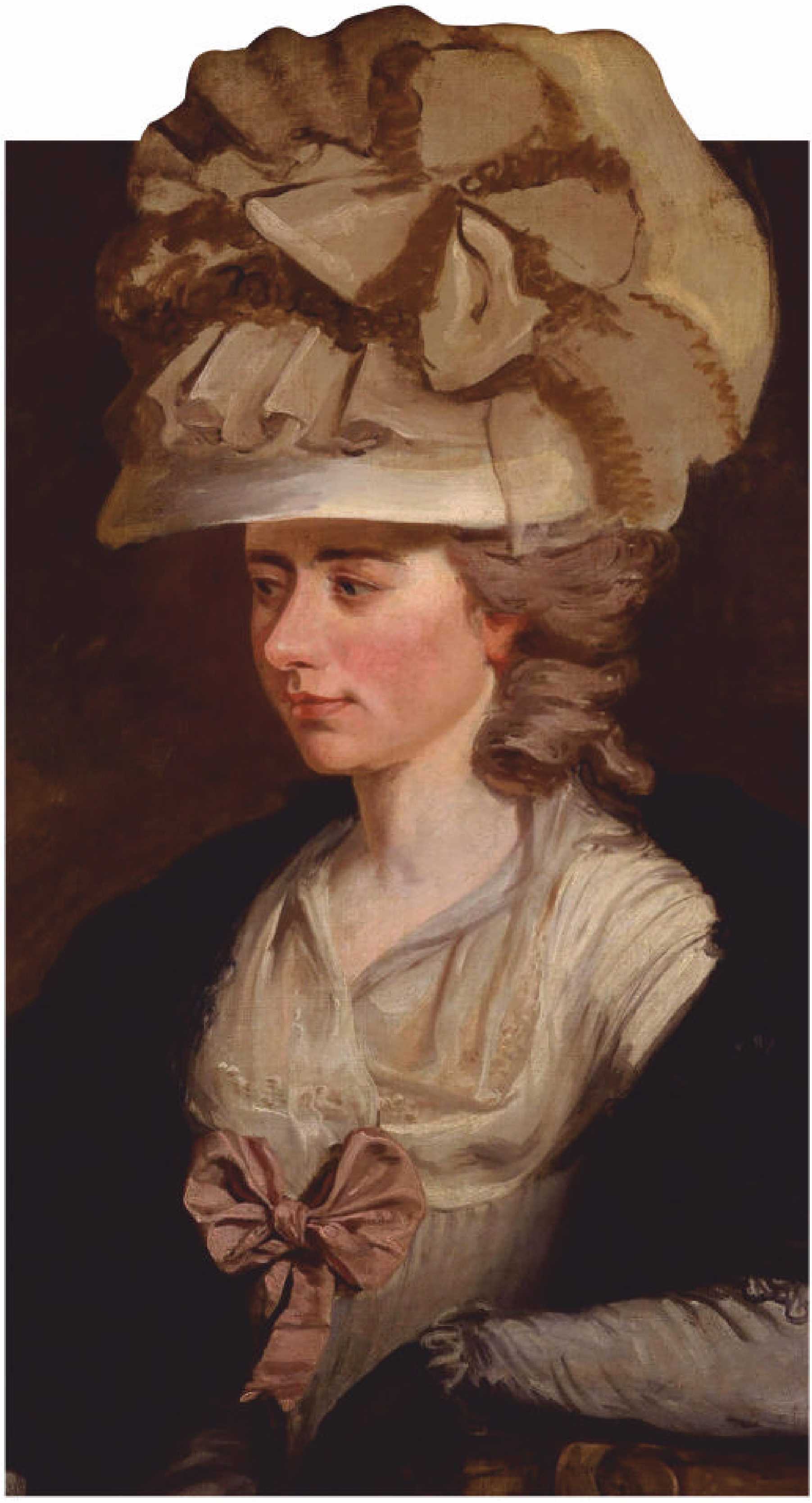
### What is it about Jane Austen that inspired you to research her life and work?

I've had a lifelong love of Jane Austen novels, but it was only as an adult that I came to realise that her own life was just as fascinating as her stories. On the face of it nothing happens: she lived quietly in genteel poverty and died at the heartbreakingly young age of 41. But in reality it was a life full of drama, defying family expectations by her refusal to get married, scraping together a living as the poor relation of the wealthy, and taking the terrible gamble of trying to live as a professional writer at a time it was almost unheard of for women. The awful thing is that it didn't pay off: she could glimpse success ahead of her, but when she died she wasn't rich and famous. Far from it. Her books had been published without even having her name on their covers – it was more 'ladylike' to be anonymous.

### You've previously written a biography about Austen through the lens of the homes in which she lived – did you discover anything that surprised you?

I was surprised to discover that she didn't live in some magnificent piece of Georgian property porn, the sort of house that we imagine Pemberley or Mansfield Park to be like. Jane had access to such houses, because there were some genuine toffs in

▶



**RIGHT** Frances Burney was a fellow writer and contemporary of Jane Austen

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## Jane Austen Trivia

Five surprising facts about the beloved author

Who knew that Jane brewed her own beer? In a letter to her sister Cassandra in January 1800, Jane told her, "We are brewing spruce beer again." During this period, brewing was a traditional chore for women because water was often contaminated and it was considered safer to drink beer.

Jane started writing satirical works when she was just a teenager with *Love And Friendship*, an epistolary novel which she wrote in 1790 to parody romantic novels. The following year, Jane wrote *The History Of England*, a comical parody of the standard history books which were popular at the time.

Jane's father was proud of his daughter's work and after she completed her first draft of *First Impressions* in 1797, he sent it to a London publisher, Thomas Cadell. Cadell rejected the novel without even reading it and it remains unknown whether Jane knew about her father's efforts.

While there are many things about Jane that remain a mystery to us, we do know she enjoyed bilbocatch, also known as the cup-and-ball game, and the exact toy she played with still exists today. In his memoir about her life, her nephew James Edward Austen-Leigh wrote "her performances with cup and ball were marvellous".

*Emma* has a dedication from Austen to the Prince Regent, the future King George IV. The prince was a fan of her novels and she was invited to dedicate a future work to him by his librarian. But she loathed the prince and the dedication is famously considered to be unenthusiastic.

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her family. These people were so anxious about the family's status that they placed enormous pressure on Jane to pipe down and marry up, preferably to a plutocrat. But instead of doing that, she lived her short life in a succession of small, sometimes rather grim houses and cottages, because that was all she could afford. It might have been grim, but at least she had something like creative freedom.

### *What are the biggest challenges you have faced during your research?*

She was a very clever (and very private) person, and has run rings around her would-be biographers by leaving such tricky, fragmented, elusive records for her life. For example, people can't even agree upon what she really looked like, for during her lifetime no one except her sister cared enough what she looked like to try to capture a likeness. Her sister was also responsible for destroying a lot of Jane's letters – I think because Jane could be so funny-slash-cruel about other family members that Cassandra burned them rather than have relatives be upset.

### *How much of Austen's work draws upon autobiographical elements from her own life?*

You can't straightforwardly trace places and people from real life in her work, Jane was far too clever for that, but all her novels open with a situation which Jane herself knew all too well: in which an upper-crust young Georgian woman is placed under pressure to marry, and to marry for money. The underlying message of her books, I think, is political. By satirising Georgian society so sharply, Jane was really saying, 'Look, life shouldn't be like this. This is terrible.' That's how change begins.

### *Do we know whether Austen was influenced by other contemporary writers or literary figures?*

Jane saw herself as part of a sisterhood of Georgian female novelists, such as Frances Burney and Maria Edgeworth. She was operating in a marketplace where there was a little bit of space for women writers, but they were supposed to pretend that they'd been driven to the vulgarity of selling their work only by family tragedy or illness. Jane herself felt unable to tell her family what she'd done – although as her work began to take off, it became impossible to keep the secret and word got out.

### *What do you think is unique about Austen and her style of writing?*

She found it really hard to get a publisher at first because her novels were simply too 'novel'. At first, editors said, 'This is no good, where are the pirates? Or the ghosts?' Her works were brilliantly observed, subtle but biting satires on people who seemed almost horribly familiar to her upper-class Georgian readers. It's a way of observing and describing the world that makes me think that if she were alive today she'd be writing for some topical and fast-moving TV drama.

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**ABOVE-LEFT** Jane Austen's writing table is on display at the Jane Austen Museum along with numerous other artefacts

**ABOVE-RIGHT** This letter is from Jane to her sister Cassandra, who ultimately destroyed most of their correspondence

**LEFT** While her work has been adapted many times Anne Hathaway portrayed Austen herself in the 2007 film, *Becoming Jane*

> *"Her works were brilliantly observed, subtle but biting satires on people who seemed almost horribly familiar to her Georgian readers"*

### *Austen's novels remain popular worldwide but how were they received during her lifetime?*

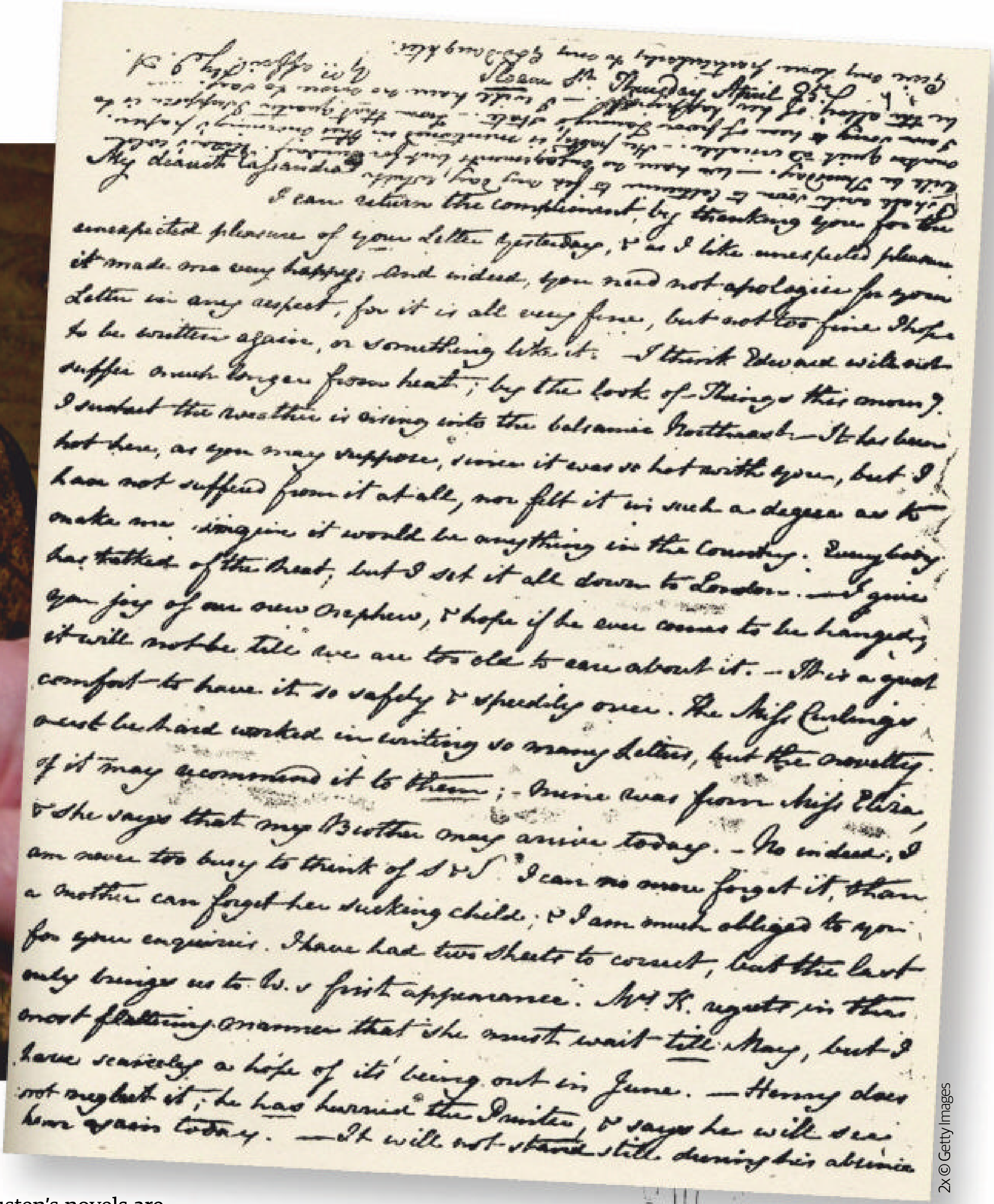
During her lifetime her novels made her around £800 – a lot compared to her pocket-money of £20 a year, but a sum that represents only six months' income for a Georgian professional man such as a doctor or solicitor. So while they were popular beyond the imaginings of her family, they were far from being the chart-topping successes that they'd become in Victorian times and on. I have a great lingering sense of injustice about that.

### *Today, Austen is frequently labelled as a feminist icon. Do you think it's correct to call her a feminist and how do you think she would react to being identified as such?*

It's wrong to call her 'a feminist', she would have denied that totally. But what she did in her work – and through the risks she took and sacrifices she made in her personal life so as to be able to produce that work – she would ultimately make the world a better place for women. So that I think makes her a feminist of sorts, and it's okay to claim her as such.

### *Why do you think Austen continues to fascinate us, even though it has been over 200 years since her death?*

It's because the world she shows us is a world full of barriers and restrictions, which is inherently dramatic. The reason her



Sloane St Thursday April 25.

My dearest Cassandra

I can return the compliment by thanking you for the unexpected pleasure of your Letter yesterday, & as I like unexpected pleasure, it made me very happy; and indeed, you need not apologise for your Letter in any respect, for it is all very fine, but not too fine I hope to be written again, or something like it. — I think Edward will not suffer much longer from heat; by the look of Things this morng I suspect the weather is rising into the balsamic Northeast. — It has been hot here, as you may suppose, since it was so hot with you, but I have not suffered from it at all, nor felt it in such a degree as to make me imagine it would be anything in the Country. Everybody has talked of the heat, but I set it all down to London. — I give you joy of our new nephew, & hope if he ever comes to be hanged, it will not be till we are too old to care about it. — It is a great comfort to have it so safely & speedily over. The Miss Curlings must be hard worked in writing so many letters, but the novelty of it may recommend it to them; — mine was from Miss Eliza, & she says that my Brother may arrive today. — No indeed, I am never too busy to think of S&S. I can no more forget it, than a mother can forget her sucking child; & I am much obliged to you for your enquiries. I have had two sheets to correct, but the last only brings us to W.s first appearance. Mrs K. regrets in the most flattering manner that she must wait till May, but I have scarcely a hope of its being out in June. — Henry does not neglect it; he has hurried the Printer, & says he will see him again today. — It will not stand still during his absence

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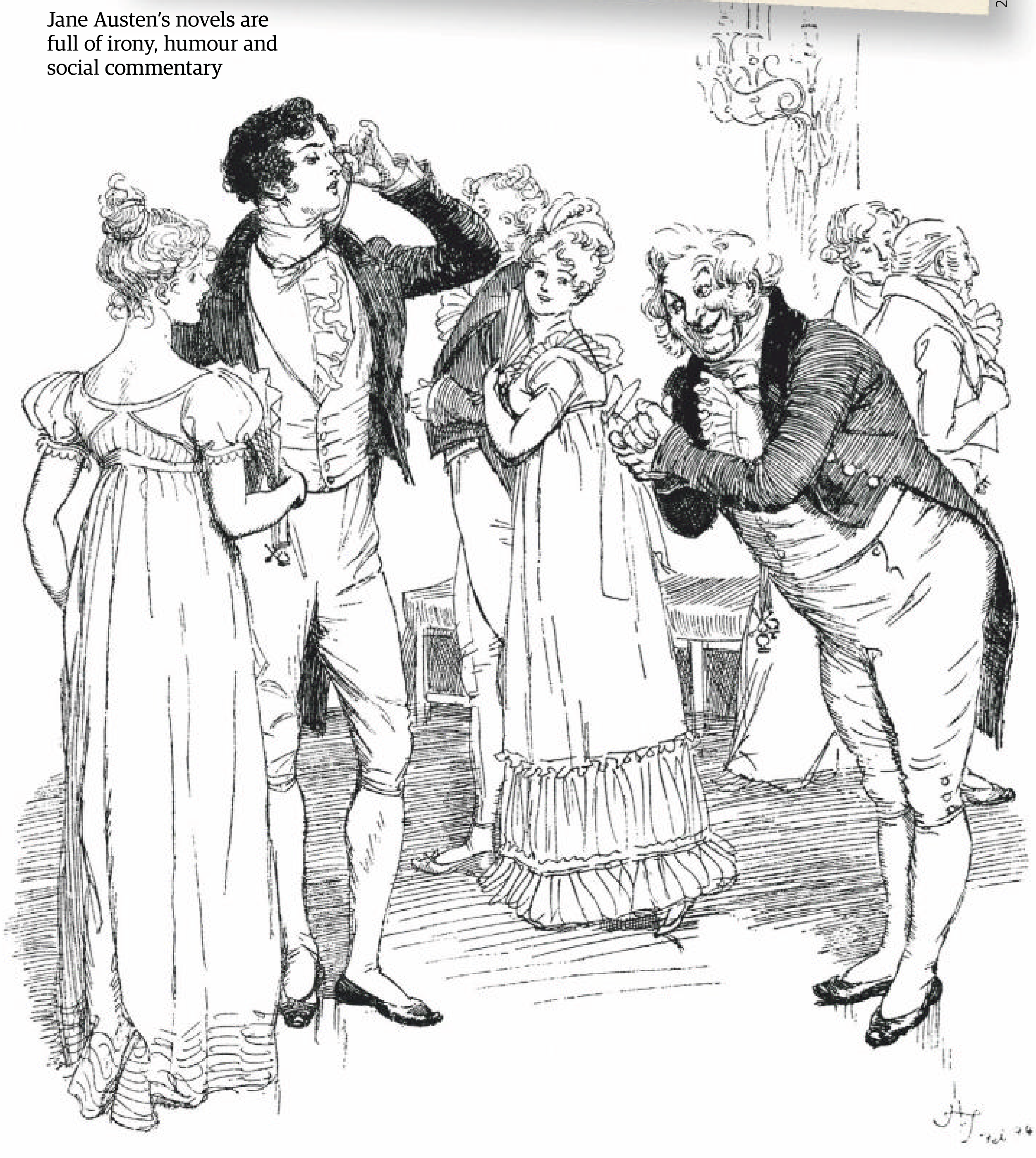
Jane Austen's novels are full of irony, humour and social commentary



Such very superior dancing is not often seen.

# Austen's World

Trace Jane's life and legacy through these five important locations

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## JANE AUSTEN'S HOUSE MUSEUM

***Chawton, Hampshire***

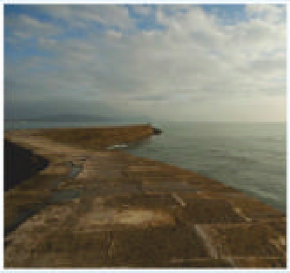
Occupying the cottage where she spent the last eight years of her life, a visit to this museum is a must for any true Austen fan. Open to the public since 1949, the museum houses an important collection of objects associated with Jane including her jewellery, letters and even the table where she wrote her novels.

© Alamy

## THE JANE AUSTEN CENTRE

***Bath, Somerset***

Jane lived in Bath during her father's retirement and it was used as a backdrop for her final two completed novels, *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion*. The Jane Austen Centre, which is located in an original Georgian townhouse, explores the writer's time in Bath and the impact that it had on her life and her novels.



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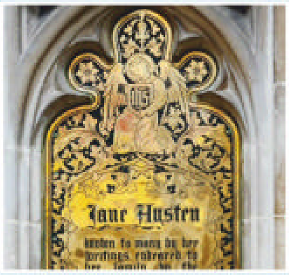
## LYME REGIS

***Dorset***

The coastal town of Lyme Regis is central to the plot of *Persuasion*, Jane's last novel which was published posthumously. She was left inspired after visiting Lyme Regis with her family three times between 1803 and 1804, where among other things, she walked along the Cobb and danced in the Assembly Rooms.



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## WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL

***Winchester, Hampshire***

Jane was buried at Winchester Cathedral following her death in 1817 but the inscription on her gravestone made no mention of her writing. In 1870, her nephew Edward paid for a brass plaque on the wall next to her grave, mentioning her career as an author. Above this plaque there is also a memorial window to Jane, which was installed in 1900.

© Getty Images

## CHATSWORTH HOUSE

***Derbyshire***

It is still debated to this day whether Chatsworth House was the true inspiration for Pemberley, the fictional country estate of Mr Darcy, in Jane's novel *Pride And Prejudice*. Nonetheless, it remains a popular tourist destination for Austen lovers from around the world and it even appeared in the 2005 film adaption of the book.

novels are read around the world is because every culture has its own version of the 'marriage market'. And that's before we get onto the way that her novels have (falsely, and mainly because of film and TV versions) come to stand for rather a twee, nostalgic, pretty heritage version of England that's entirely unreal but enormously powerful.

***What would you say are the biggest misconceptions about Austen and her novels?***

People think that they're love stories. And on one level they are. But the reason that they're great works of art – on the level of Shakespeare – is that there are endless depths. For example, there are tiny clues to suggest that all the 'happy endings' might not be so straightforwardly happy as the casual reader might assume.

***Is there anything about Austen that you wish more people knew or understood?***

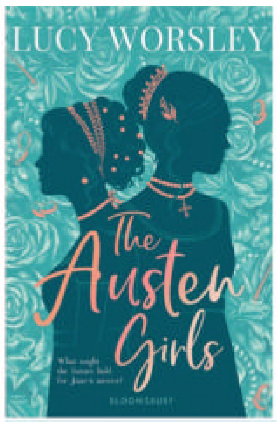
I think that some people were perhaps made to read her before they were ready – perhaps at school – and don't realise how funny, clever and dark she was. The novels repay perseverance.

***What inspired you to write your new novel,* The Austen Girls*, exploring her life from the perspective of her two nieces, Anna and Fanny?***

As I was researching my biography, I came across Jane's two real-life nieces, to whom she would write letters of bracing advice on their love lives. She watched the girls' adolescence with a mixture of aunt-ish love and writer-ish cruelty, to see what they would do and how their characters would develop. I immediately identified these two, the cousins Fanny and Anna, as the heroines of a story for girls: finding their own way on the marriage market, dealing with the choices that had to be made, discovering the truth about dull old 'Aunt Jane' and finding out that you don't, after all, have to go far from home to have adventures. Some parts of the story will seem ridiculous to readers, such as an incident of Georgian shoplifting, or a mother with 11 babies, but in fact these are real events from the life of Jane Austen and her family.

***Lastly, which one of Austen's novels do you consider to be your favourite and why?***

My favourite is by no means the most popular: it's *Emma*, a story about a woman who's a bit difficult and who thinks she's a bit better than everyone else. (Of course I'm nothing like that at all and can't see why it appeals to me!) *Emma* also contains Austen's best love interest: Mr Knightley. My own biography of her is dedicated to my husband, and in it I named him as my own Mr Knightley. He asked, as many people would, why I hadn't called him 'Mr Darcy', but, as true Austen-lovers will know, Mr Darcy really is a bit arsey. Mr Knightley's the man for me, and Jane herself said that if she'd ever married, it would have had to have been to someone as good as him.



*The Austen Girls* by Lucy Worsley is out 2 April 2020 from Bloomsbury

**BELOW-LEFT** Austen's significance in Britain was illustrated by her being added to the £10 note in 2017

**BELOW-RIGHT** Emma and Mr Knightley are one of Austen's most beloved couples

> *"The reason her novels are read around the world is because every culture has its own version of the 'marriage market'"*

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Jane Austen

# Which Austen heroine are you?

### 1. PICK A LOCATION FOR A WEEKEND AWAY

**A.** Lyme Regis
**B.** Bath
**C.** Derbyshire
**D.** Box Hill

### 2. WHICH ONE OF THESE WORDS BEST DESCRIBES YOUR PERSONALITY?

**A.** Loyal
**B.** Imaginative
**C.** Witty
**D.** Confident

### 3. WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE HOBBY?

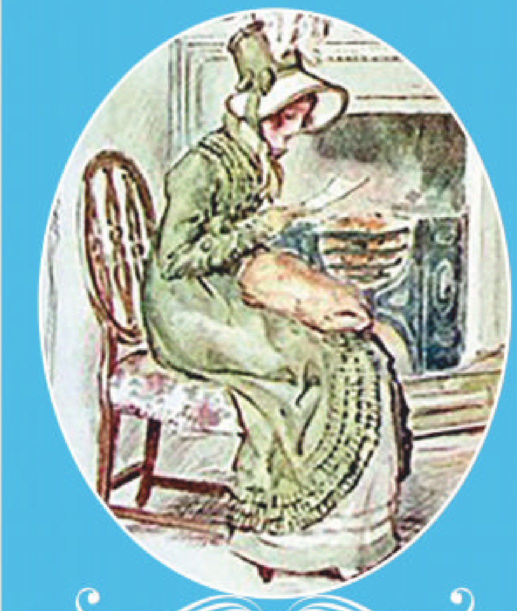
**A.** Playing the piano
**B.** Reading
**C.** Taking long walks
**D.** Dancing

### 4. WHAT LIFE LESSON DO YOU THINK YOU NEED TO LEARN?

**A.** To trust your own feelings and instincts
**B.** Understand the difference between fiction and reality
**C.** To not judge someone on a first impression
**D.** Interfering in the lives of others can have serious consequences

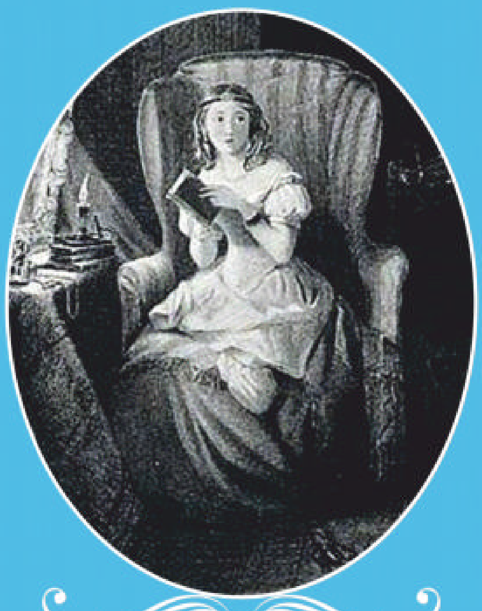
### 5. PICK THE QUOTE THAT FITS YOU BEST

**A.** "My idea of good company… is the company of clever, well-informed people, who have a great deal of conversation."
**B.** "Oh! I am delighted with the book! I should like to spend my whole life in reading it."
**C.** "My courage always rises with every attempt to intimidate me."
**D.** "I always deserve the best treatment because I never put up with any other."



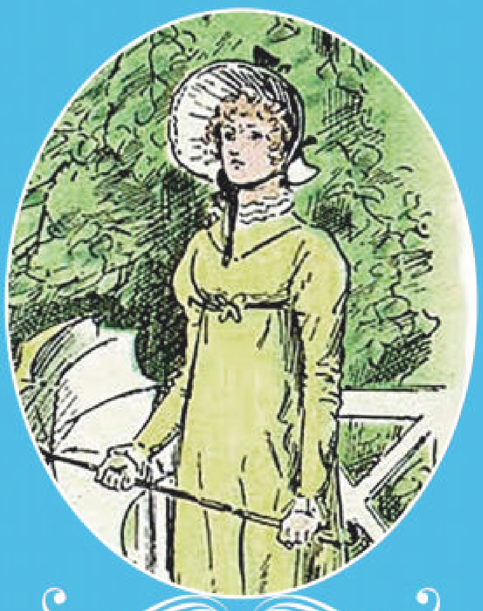
### MOSTLY As

***YOU ARE ANNE ELLIOT, THE HEROINE OF PERSUASION!***
Like Anne, you're smart, empathetic and sweet. You don't like to stand out from a crowd, but don't let that stop you from speaking up for yourself.



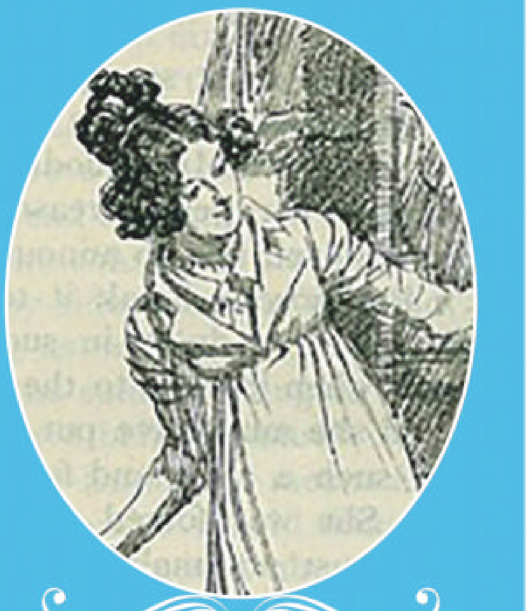
### MOSTLY Bs

***YOU ARE CATHERINE MORLAND, THE HEROINE OF NORTHANGER ABBEY!***
Like Catherine, you have a fun imagination and seek adventure. But you can also be gullible and hurt others with your assumptions.



### MOSTLY Cs

***YOU ARE ELIZABETH BENNET, THE HEROINE OF PRIDE AND PREJUDICE!***
Like Elizabeth, you're not afraid to speak up for yourself or loved ones. But remember to stay open-minded when meeting new people.



### MOSTLY Ds

***YOU ARE EMMA WOODHOUSE, THE HEROINE OF EMMA!***
Like Emma, you love to help those around you with the best of intentions. However, you can't resist meddling in other people's business from time to time!

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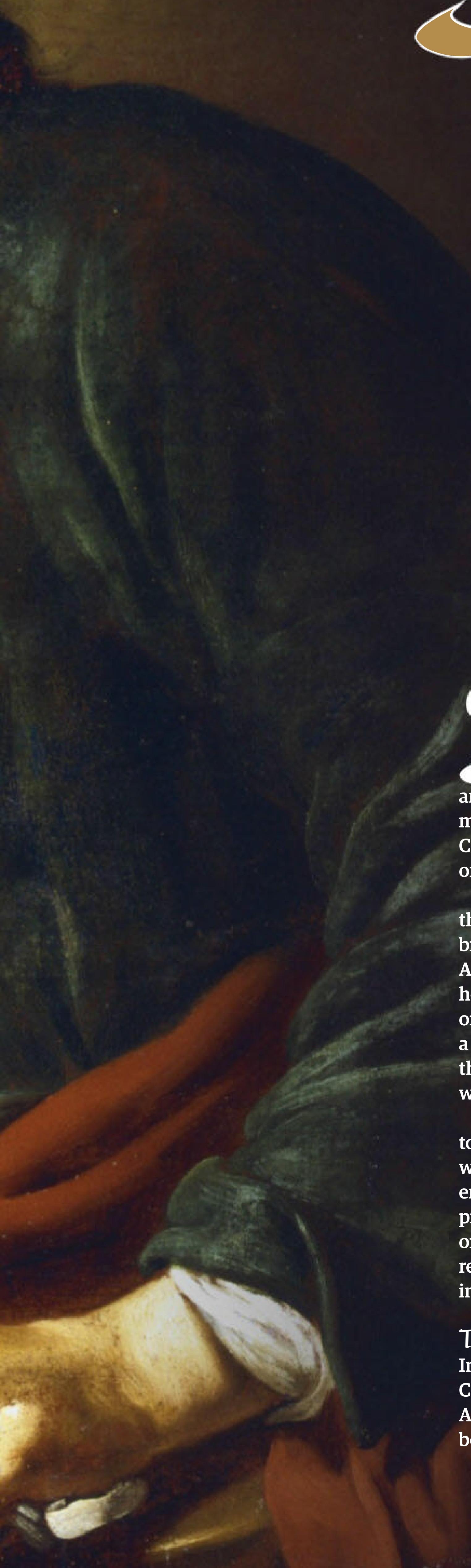


# St Paul

# Creator of Christianity?

Written by Ben Gazur

***With the disappearance of Jesus his followers needed direction on how to worship – Paul gave it to them***

**Some time around 36 CE a zealous young man was on the road to Damascus.** He was set on hunting down and persecuting a new sect of Jewish people who were following the teachings of an executed criminal called Jesus. In a flash of miraculous light, however, his life and the history of Christianity was changed forever. This man was Saul of Tarsus, better known today as St Paul the Apostle.

The *Book of Acts* in the *New Testament* tells us that at the moment of his conversion Saul was "still breathing out threats against the Lord's disciples." Armed with letters from the high priest in Jerusalem he was travelling to Damascus to hunt for followers of Jesus in the synagogues there. Then "suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?'"

Saul got up, blinded by his vision, and went to Damascus. After being divinely healed he was transformed from being one of the principle enemies of the Christians into one of its fiercest proselytisers. The conversion of St Paul was the original road to Damascus moment and after the resurrection of Jesus may have been the most influential event in the early Christian movement.

## The Early Church

In the period when Paul was active, 30s-50s CE, Christianity was not fully distinct from Judaism. All of the early disciples were Jewish in culture and belief and Jesus spoke in synagogues, addressing many issues around the following of Jewish law. To Roman and Greek outsiders the difference between the average Jewish believer and the follower of Jesus would have been vanishingly small.

For Jewish leaders in Palestine, however, the rise of a sect who followed Jesus was an alarming phenomenon. The whole Mediterranean world at the time was under the sway of Roman domination. The emperors in their faraway city were always watchful for any hint of revolt in their domains and especially nervous of disruption in the provinces. Jesus was crucified because of the fear that he was fomenting an uprising. In the common run of events a dead revolutionary causes few problems - Jesus, though, would just not stay dead.

The *Book of Acts*, written around 80-110 CE, is our best available record of what the early Christian movement was like and the stories they told each other about the Apostles. In *Acts* we find that the early church met in small groups, often in private houses. Shared meals where bread and wine were taken in memory of Jesus' sacrifice were foundational to the fellowship of the faithful. The Apostles went out into the world to spread the gospel. No matter how many times they were flogged or beaten it seemed impossible to fully suppress the followers of Jesus.

It is against this background that Saul of Tarsus entered the story of Christianity. He was one of many agents being dispatched to root out the secretive Christian groups that were spreading throughout Palestine.

▶

## Life and Travels

Saul of Tarsus was probably born around the same time as Jesus. He tells us in one of his letters that he was "circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee". Not only was he by birth a Jew he also adhered to the strict interpretation of the Jewish law as laid down by the Pharisees. The Pharisees thought that by following God's laws perfectly one could be in good standing with God. This belief drove Saul's persecution of Jesus' followers as they tempted other Jews to abandon the traditional strictures of the law.

Tarsus at the time of Saul's birth was a busy, cosmopolitan trading centre on the Mediterranean. There were many Jewish people who'd assimilated into Greek culture and were known as Hellenised Jews, though Saul doesn't seem to have been one of them. It's clear from his letters that he was fluent in Greek and probably in Aramaic and Hebrew. He also knew the scriptures incredibly well and was sophisticated in their interpretation as a good Pharisee.

It is a misconception that Saul was transformed into Paul at the moment of conversion. In a way that will be familiar to many immigrants today it was common for Jews to have one name they used among themselves and one when dealing with foreigners. We are told of "a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas)" elsewhere in *Acts*. The *Book of Acts* uses Saul and Paul interchangeably, though in Paul's own writings he only refers to himself as Paul - the name he used with Gentiles.

After his conversion Paul worked to spread the word of Christianity. Some rationalist interpreters have seen the conversion as described in *Acts* as showing the symptoms of temporal lobe epilepsy, which has been linked in some cases to hyper-religiosity, though not everyone finds this diagnosis convincing. Whatever the cause it must have been awkward to deal with people he had so recently been persecuting. There does seem to have been some distrust of Paul among other early Christians.

It must be remembered that unlike the other Apostles, Paul had never actually met Jesus in the flesh. When Paul claimed not to have met the other Apostles until several years after his conversion he turned this to his advantage - he received the gospel directly from Jesus himself and not from others.

Paul was an incessant traveller and he always wanted to be the first to arrive and perform the first conversions. In his *Letter To The Romans* he says, "So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ. It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation." Of course, if he got there first he could preach the gospel as he understood it without interference.

The *Book of Acts* deals for the most part in tracing the huge journeys that Paul took across the Eastern part of the Roman Empire. Everywhere he went it seemed that he won converts and set up small churches of believers. While he taught in synagogues and converted Jewish men ▶

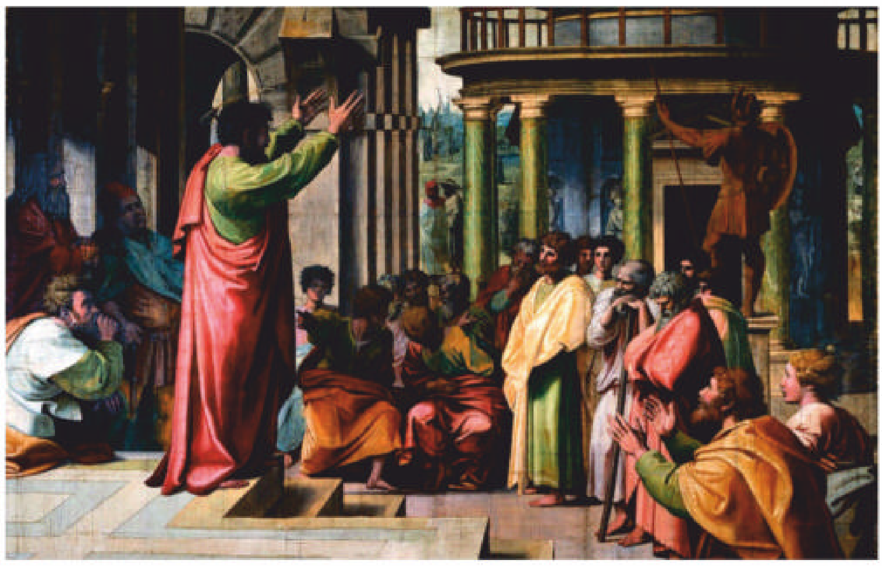


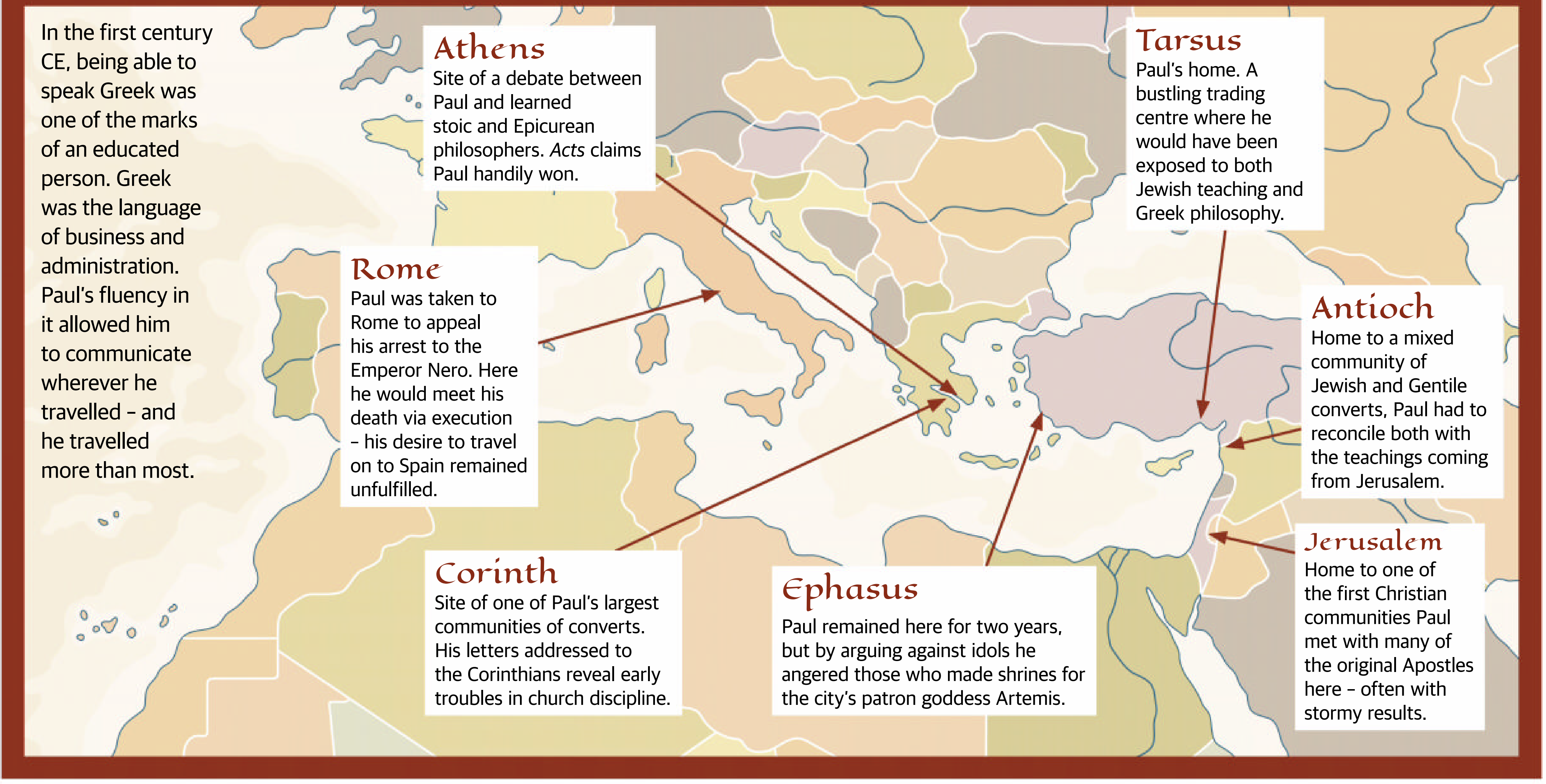
Image source: wiki/Royal Collection

**ABOVE** St Paul is said to have been an indifferent speaker, yet some sources have him besting learned philosophers in debate at Athens

**RIGHT** The miraculous conversion of St Paul has been a popular theme in Christian art for many centuries

## Paul's Peregrinations

### Ever keen for fresh converts, St Paul traversed much of the known world



In the first century CE, being able to speak Greek was one of the marks of an educated person. Greek was the language of business and administration. Paul's fluency in it allowed him to communicate wherever he travelled - and he travelled more than most.

**Athens**
Site of a debate between Paul and learned stoic and Epicurean philosophers. *Acts* claims Paul handily won.

**Tarsus**
Paul's home. A bustling trading centre where he would have been exposed to both Jewish teaching and Greek philosophy.

**Rome**
Paul was taken to Rome to appeal his arrest to the Emperor Nero. Here he would meet his death via execution – his desire to travel on to Spain remained unfulfilled.

**Antioch**
Home to a mixed community of Jewish and Gentile converts, Paul had to reconcile both with the teachings coming from Jerusalem.

**Jerusalem**
Home to one of the first Christian communities Paul met with many of the original Apostles here – often with stormy results.

**Corinth**
Site of one of Paul's largest communities of converts. His letters addressed to the Corinthians reveal early troubles in church discipline.

**Ephasus**
Paul remained here for two years, but by arguing against idols he angered those who made shrines for the city's patron goddess Artemis.

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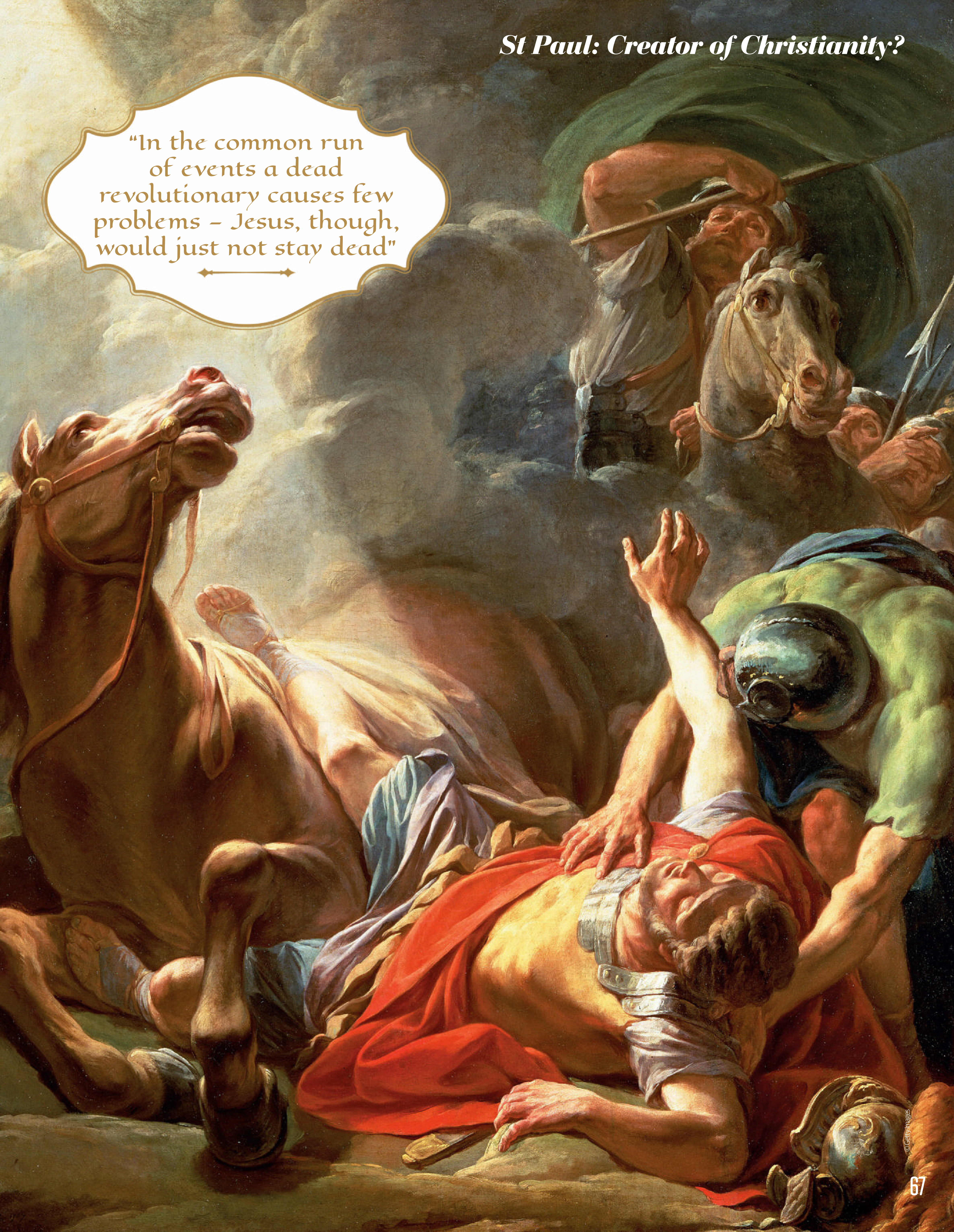

"In the common run of events a dead revolutionary causes few problems – Jesus, though, would just not stay dead"

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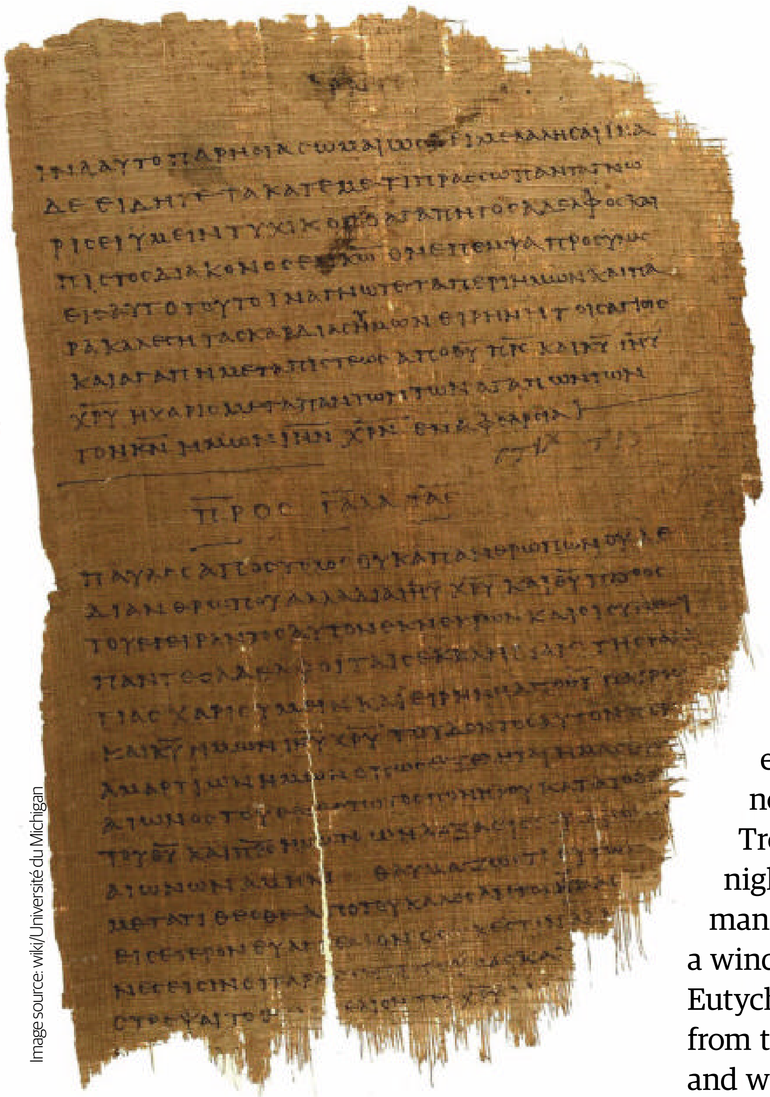


Image source: wiki/Université du Michigan

and women Paul became known as the Apostle to the Gentiles, which created problems among the early Christians.

As a self-appointed Apostle to the Gentiles Paul was influential in converting Christianity from a mere Jewish sub-group into a separate faith. If Christianity had remained a sect of Judaism then it is likely few today would've heard of it. But Paul had to take on those of Jesus' followers who demanded adherence to Judaism.

One of the central rites of the early Church was a meal called an agape feast, or love-feast, where the devout could meet and eat together to learn and worship before they could follow Jesus. In Antioch we are told that Christians both Jewish and Gentile met and ate at the same table. Under the strictest interpretation of the Jewish faith such a meal would not be kosher. It was when St Peter came to Antioch that such questions about reconciling Jewish and Christian belief came to a head. Peter, Paul tells us, saw no problem with joining such a meal but the followers of St James from Jerusalem did. In the face of disapproval from the Jerusalem Christians we are told that Peter stopped eating with the Gentile Christians to respect Jewish law. Paul rebuked Peter "to his face" for what he saw as hypocrisy.

The first council of the church would feature debate over whether Gentile converts first had to be come Jewish. The Jewish Christians in Jerusalem argued that Gentile men had to be circumcised before converting. Paul, probably seeing this as stumbling block in his mission, argued that it was unnecessary – even stopping his follower Titus from going under the knife. Eventually Paul's view was triumphant and set Christianity on a path that separated it from Judaism.

But he didn't always have his own way. In Corinth Paul's authority was challenged by people he sarcastically called "super-apostles" who thought that he had fundamentally misunderstood the gospel. Besides this they alleged that "his letters are weighty and forceful, but in person he is unimpressive and his speaking amounts to nothing".

There may be some other evidence that perhaps Paul was not the most enthralling speaker. In Troas he was preaching well into the night in an upper room while a young man named Eutychus was seated at a window. As Paul "talked on and on" Eutychus fell into a deep sleep and toppled from the window to the ground below and was killed. Paul raised him back to life, then preceded to break bread and talk until dawn. His letters, later forming a large part of the *New Testament* canon, would prove influential long after his preaching was forgotten, however.

Paul's teachings got him in trouble with the authorities several times. He tells us "three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones" and that he had been imprisoned. It helped in his dealings with Jewish authorities that he was a Roman citizen. This gave him many more rights and the ability to appeal to a higher, if earthly, power.

Taken to see the Roman governor, Paul was able to appeal to the emperor himself, which necessitated a trip to Rome. While under house arrest in Rome he continued to preach and win converts. The *Book of Acts* ends with Paul under guard, but ancient tradition has it that he perished in the Neronian persecution of Christians that followed the great fire of Rome.

## Teachings and Influence

Of the 27 books of the *New Testament*, 13 are traditionally ascribed to St Paul. His letters, dating from the 50s CE, are the earliest surviving texts of the Christian religion as they predate the writing of the *Gospels* by decades. Paul's spoken words and activities did much to win converts in the ancient world but it is his letters that continue to mould Christian doctrine.

Unfortunately of the 13 epistles there are

> "His letters, dating from the 50s CE, are the earliest surviving texts of the Christian religion"

**LEFT** St Paul's lasting effect on the future religion of Christianity is best seen through the letters he wrote that shaped so much Christian doctrine

**RIGHT** Tradition has it that Paul was beheaded during Nero's persecution of Christians following the great fire of Rome in 64 CE

**BELOW** When arrested by Jewish authorities Paul was taken before king Herod Agrippa II, then taken to Rome to appeal to Nero

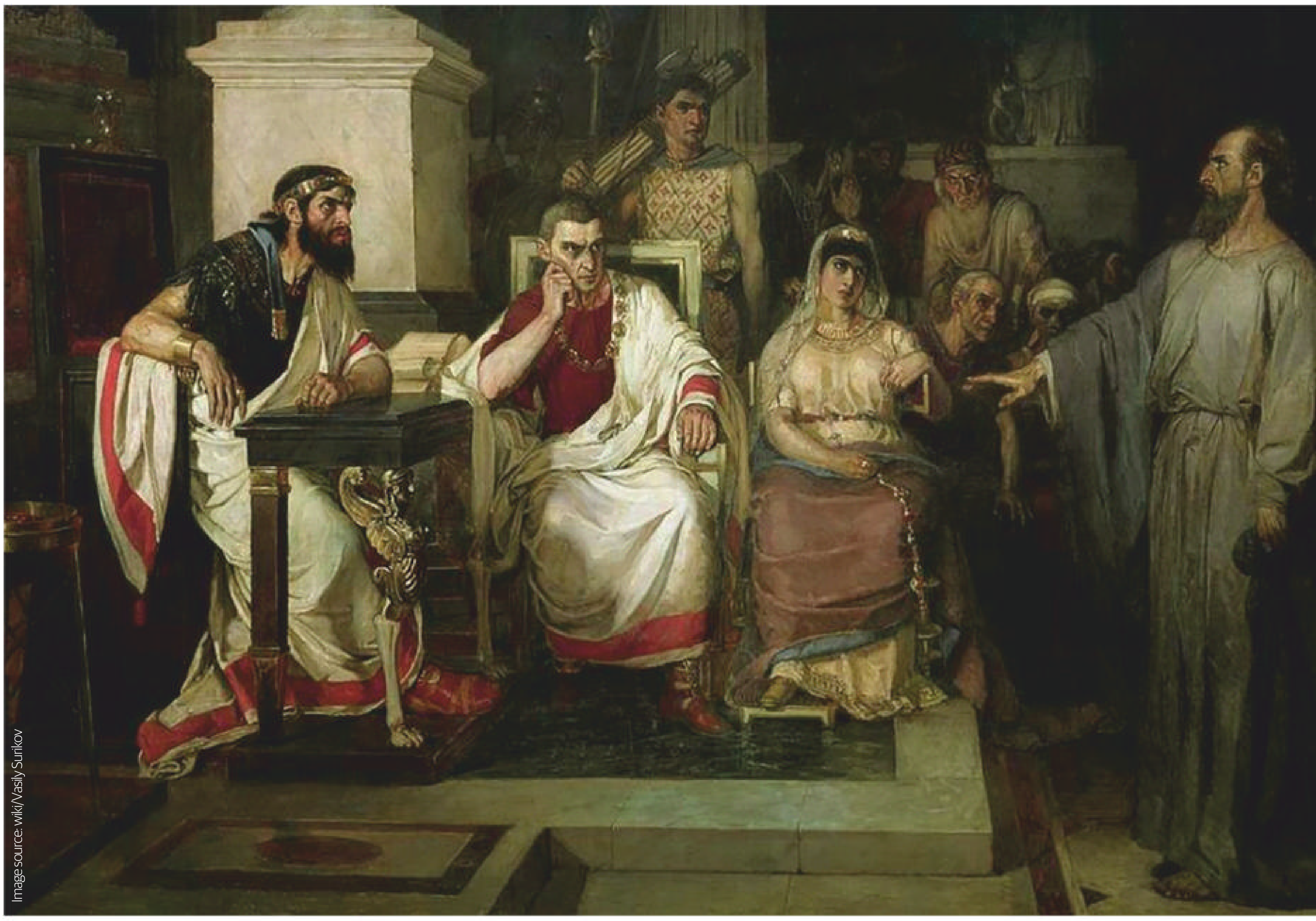
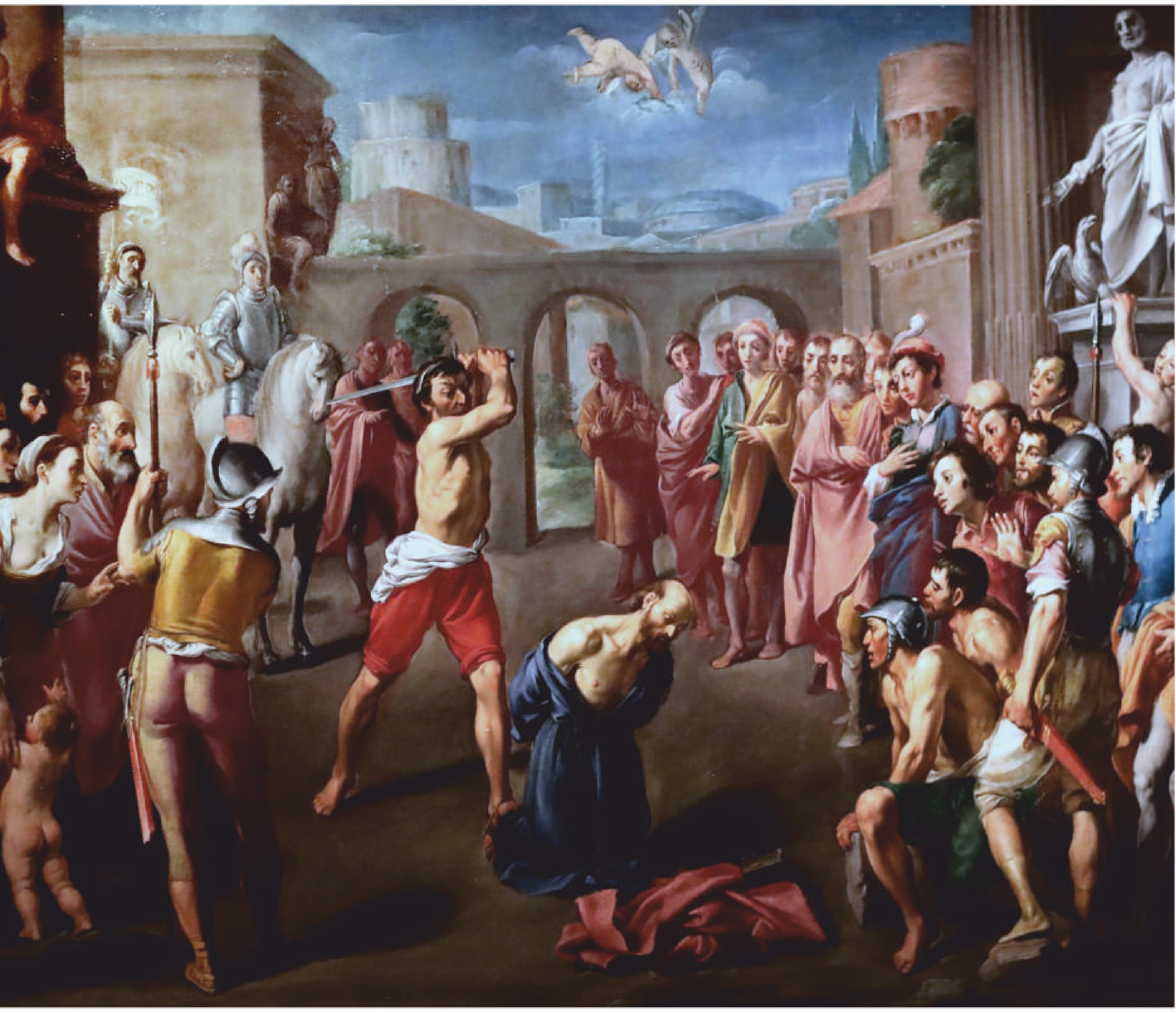


Image source: wiki/Vasily Surikov



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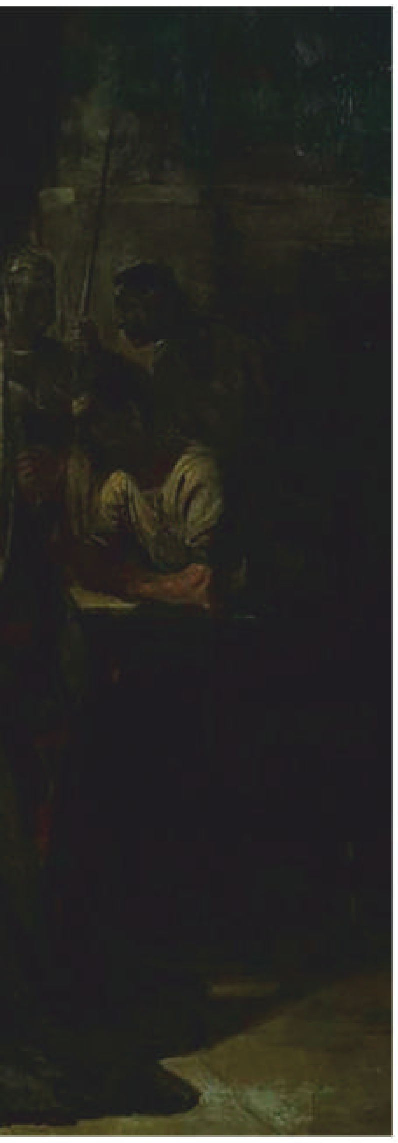


only seven that are universally considered to be by Paul himself. Pseudepigraphy, the writing of letters under another's name, was common in the ancient world. We know for a fact that there were forged letters being transmitted under Paul's name, and a letter from him would have huge authority in many churches.

*2 Thessalonians* itself carries a warning not to trust false messages from Paul: "[Do not become] alarmed by the teaching allegedly from us – whether by a prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter." It has therefore been one of the great works of modern theologians to prove which are the authentic words of St Paul.

Because of his authority as a Church father his teachings remain influential, and his most important teaching of all has proved to be his belief that faith in Jesus alone is sufficient to be saved. Just as Paul abandoned a need to follow the Jewish law to be a Christian, so he denied that good acts were needed - divine grace and Jesus' sacrifice were enough. Martin Luther found in the *Pauline Epistles* the justification for his teachings. "All have sinned and are justified freely, without their own works and merits, by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, in His blood (*Romans 3:23-25*)." St Paul was therefore at the heart of the Reformation that is still shaping Christian belief today.

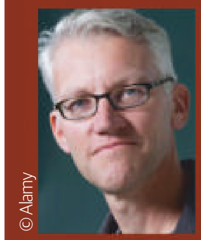
## The Unquiet Dead

The Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls in Rome is supposed to mark the spot of Paul's burial. In 2002 a sarcophagus was found underneath it with an inscription saying *"PAULO APOSTOLO MART"* - meaning "Paul apostle martyr". When the Vatican had samples of the remains in the coffin tested they discovered they dated from the 1st or 2nd centuries CE, and asserted that they support the identification of this finding with the remains of St Paul. He may have died nearly 2000 years ago but debates over his life and teachings are likely to outlive us all.

Much of what is orthodox today in Christianity began with St Paul's unorthodox interpretations of Jesus' teachings. It's not for nothing that scholars talk about "Pauline Christianity". ○

## The rise of Paul

### Tom Holland discusses his successes and legacy



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***How do you think Paul achieved such personal authority?***

He was evidently a remarkable man, possessed of extraordinary charisma, persuasiveness and a capacity for relentless travel. By the end of his life it has been estimated he had travelled some 10,000 miles.

***How influenced was Paul by Greek philosophy?***

I don't think Paul had a deep knowledge of Greek philosophy, but even so its impact is evident in his letters. Writing to the churches of Rome, Paul freely acknowledged that Jews were not alone in having a sense of right and wrong. Other peoples too, however dimly, possessed one. How had they come by it? Since God had never given them a Law, it could only have derived "from nature". This, for a Jew, was an astonishing acknowledgement to make. The concept of natural law had no place in Torah. Yet Paul, in struggling to define the law that he believed, in the wake of the crucifixion and resurrection, to be written on the heart of all who acknowledged Christ as Lord, didn't hesitate to adapt the teachings of the Greeks.

***Can today's Christianity be called Pauline Christianity?***

Paul's letters are like a collection of acorns from which mighty oaks have grown. They are the most influential pieces of writing to have survived from antiquity, and their influence on Christian history and the present-day character and assumptions of the West is incalculable. If the European philosophical tradition can be characterised as a series of footnotes to Plato, then even more so can Christian theology be characterised as a series of footnotes to Paul. Yet that does not mean he should be regarded as the founder of Christianity. The figure of Christ stands at the heart of Paul's letters, just he stands at the heart of the later *Gospels*.

# Mehmed II: The Ottoman Caesar

## *How the Ottoman leader conquered Constantinople and brought an end to Christendom in the East*

Written by Jem Duducu

**A Seljuk Turk by the name of Osman (born in 1258) is the man regarded as the founder of the Ottoman Empire.** His name is sometimes spelt Ottman or Othman, hence the term 'Ottoman'. The Seljuks came from the Asiatic steppes and had been in Anatolia for generations by the late 1290s. Had Osman tried to establish his powerbase 50 years earlier or later, the political landscape would likely have been quite stable, so any attempt at building his own independent realm would have been quickly extinguished. More than anything else, Osman was the right guy in the right place at the right time.

It took Osman until 1280 to receive the recognition of more powerful Seljuk chieftains to officially head his family and become a bey (chieftain). From that time until he died in 1323/24, he greatly expanded the lands under his control, almost exclusively to the detriment of the ever-weakening Byzantine Empire. Osman must have calculated that he wasn't yet powerful enough to challenge the larger powers to the east, so he nibbled away at the Byzantine hinterland - and there wasn't much the Byzantine rulers could do about it. But they did try. In 1302, the Byzantines sent a small army in an attempt to curb Osman's advances. The two sides met at the Battle of Bapheus, near the Byzantine city of Nicomedia, where Osman's cavalry made short work of the smaller Byzantine force.

The fight between the Byzantine Empire and the expanding Ottomans was never seen through the lens of Muslim versus Christian. Instead, the conflict was a pragmatic political reality. Both powers were weak and in no position to fight larger threats, but almost in the shadows the Ottomans continued to grow at the expense of the Byzantine Empire. Their power was solidified in 1326 when, after a nine-year siege, the Ottomans finally captured their first major Byzantine town of Bursa and made it their second capital (Söğüt was the first, a small town in western Anatolia that wouldn't be worth even a footnote in history if it wasn't for the fact that it was here that Osman consolidated his power, and as a consequence, it became the first Ottoman capital). Bursa's importance can be seen in the fact that this was where Osman and all the Ottoman rulers prior to Mehmed II were buried (even after Edirne, or Adrianople as it was known in the West, became the third capital). That it took nine years of slowly starving the population showed how rudimentary the horse-archer based army of the early Ottomans was when fighting fixed positions.

Fast-forwarding to the middle of the 15th century, we see that the Ottomans had learned not only about conquering but about the people they had conquered. And as their lands expanded, so too did their wealth, which allowed the latest military and other advances to be implemented. It was in this

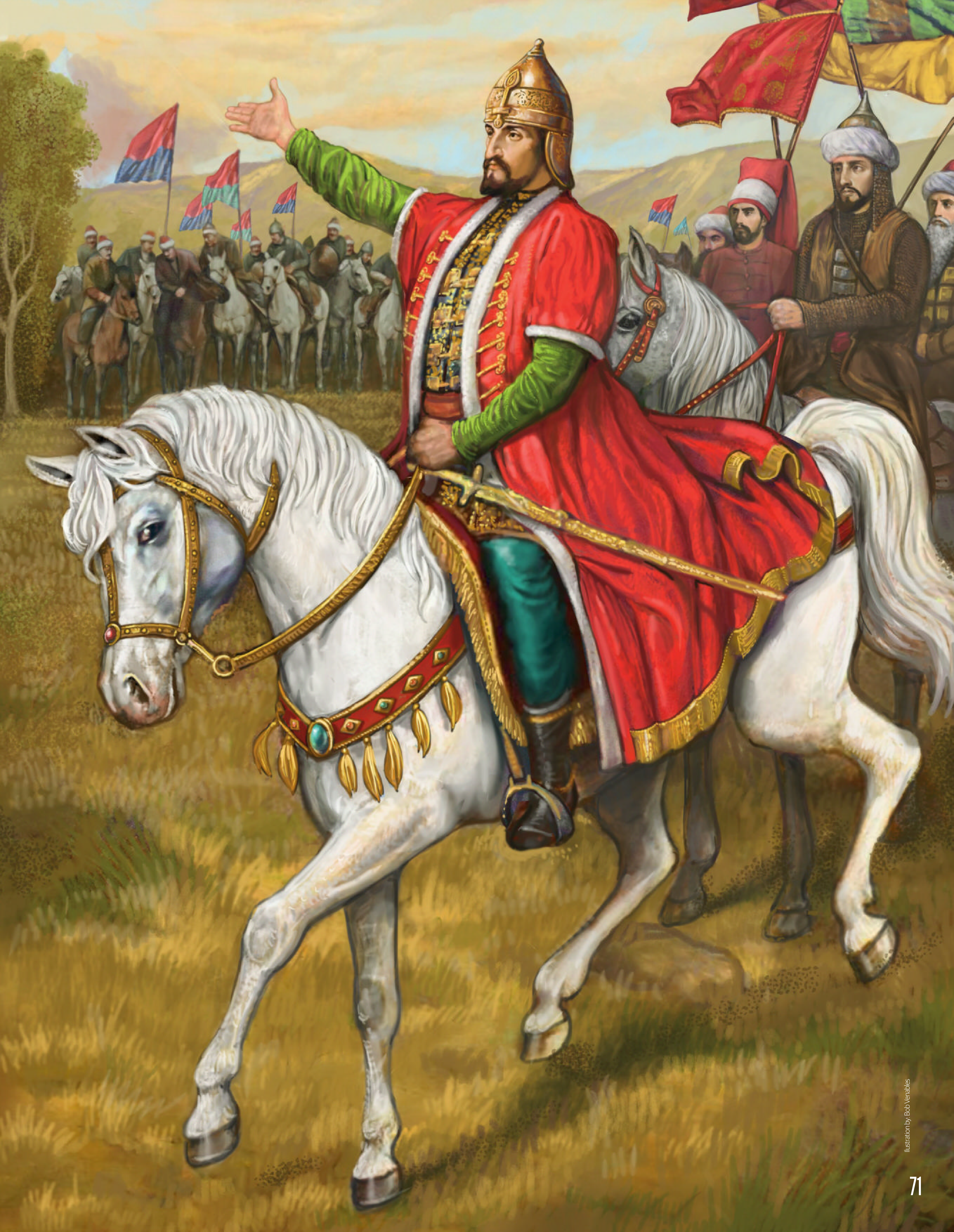


Illustration by Bob Venables

heady era of successful rule that Mehmed II emerged to do what no one had ever done before.

Murad II was the father of Mehmed II and had retired in favour of Mehmed, who became the youngest sultan at the age of 12. However, due to threats of war, Murad retook the reins of power and ruled for a few more years to allow his son to mature in the role. When Mehmed became sultan, technically for a second time, he was in possession of a very large empire. Belgrade (yet to be conquered) marked its western frontier, with about two-thirds of Anatolia under his direct rule. However, in the very centre of his empire was a glaring anomaly, one that was still in the hands of the old enemy Byzantium. Many earlier Ottoman sultans had besieged Constantinople and all had failed. Mehmed II intended to succeed.

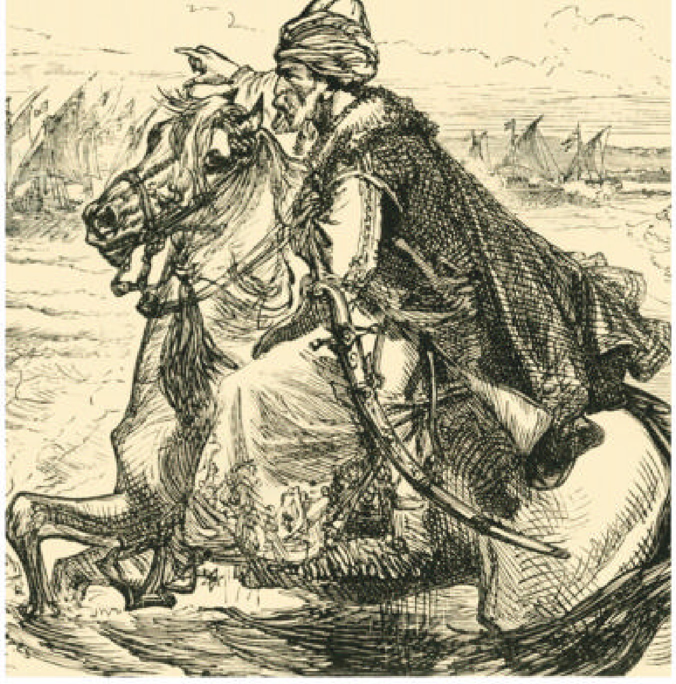
Constantinople was the prize, and in a Muslim context it was the ultimate prize. The holy book of Islam is the *Qu'ran*, but there is ancillary information about the Prophet Muhammad's life called the *Hadiths*. These are a collection of sayings attributed to the Prophet and expand on the central religious text. One of the most famous *Hadiths* declares that the greatest general in history will be the one who conquerors Constantinople, and by 1453, these words had echoed down the centuries, a challenge from the earliest days of Islam to the Muslim leaders who came later. The thick walls of the city had thwarted armies from many cultures and eras and remained standing. Constantinople was a prize to all, but if a Muslim leader conquered the city, the deed would link him to the very words of the Prophet himself. While this must have been on the mind of the Sultan Mehmed II (just 21 in 1453), it was more worldly considerations that drove the campaign.

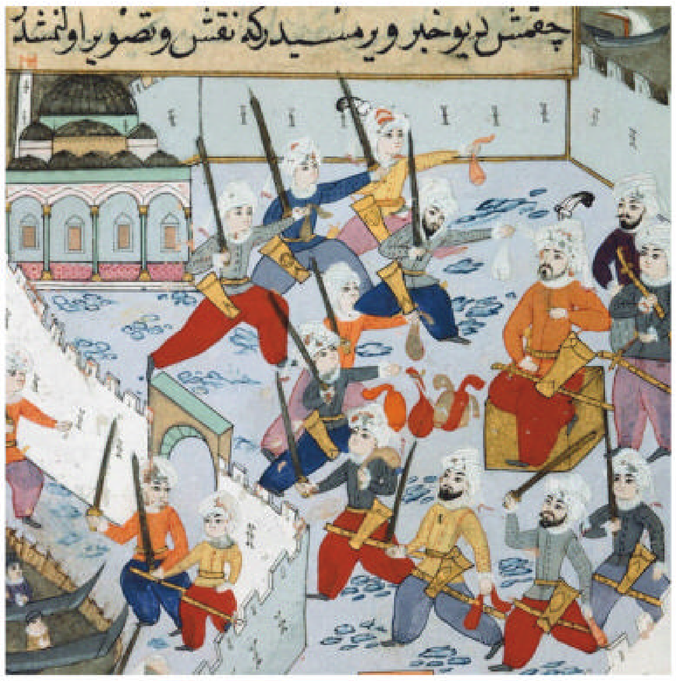
"The pope sent a small fleet to aid Constantinople, but it was never going to be enough"

Mehmed spent over a year preparing to conquer the city, and no expense was spared. Of all the possible military expenditures, armies are the cheapest. It is telling that the requirements for this army were the last item on Mehmed's list. Instead, while he was constructing a new fort a short distance from Constantinople, he was investing in the navy and the newest, biggest siege guns to breach the walls that had stood for more than a thousand years. All of this was eye-wateringly expensive and shows that his was a carefully crafted plan to remove this thorn in the side of the Ottomans and to defeat the Byzantine Empire once and for all.

Constantine XI was the last Byzantine emperor and is an example of how complex the situation had become for any Christian lands in the vicinity of the Ottoman Empire. The Isthmus of Corinth is the narrow stretch of land that connects the Peloponnese peninsula with the rest of mainland Greece. It was here that a young Prince Constantine built a wall across the isthmus, giving him a strategic advantage when he launched an attack on the Duchy of Athens in 1444. At the time the duchy was ruled by Florence, not Greece, and rather than being a Byzantine ally, the duchy was an Ottoman vassal state. So there were Greeks fighting Italians in Greece…

Constantine won, but this provoked Murad II. Constantine tried to use diplomacy to defuse the situation, but after stopping the immediate threat of an invasion from the west, Murad II wanted to show everyone who was really boss and attacked Constantine in 1446. He broke down the wall across the isthmus that Constantine had so carefully constructed and 60,000 Ottoman troops poured through. Constantine barely made it out alive.





**TOP** Determined Mehmed II spent over a year, and vast sums, planning his attack on the city

**ABOVE** The siege only lasted eight weeks before Constantinople fell to the Ottomans

3x © Getty Images

Image source: wiki/Gallica Digital Library

## Jewel of Constantinople

### From church to mosque, this building had a massive influence on architecture

Built in the 6th century CE by the Byzantine Emperor Justinian, the Hagia Sophia (Saint Sophia) was the world's largest church for nearly 1,000 years. It was the centrepiece of his power in his capital of Constantinople.

To the modern eye, the Hagia Sophia looks like a mosque. Prior to 1453, there had been some mosques with domes but most had open courtyards. But after 1453, this magnificent church became a magnificent mosque, one that heavily influenced Islamic architecture, so that subsequent mosques were made to look like an ancient church, not the other way around. The Hagia Sophia was already 500 years old by the time the Ottoman architect Sinan recognised that the structure was collapsing and added buttresses, which is why it still stands today.

So, after serving Christians for nearly a millennium, Saint Sophia became one of the Islamic world's largest and most venerable mosques for the next 450 years. It's also a physical example of how the Ottomans co-opted late Roman iconography into their own empire. Today, it's neither church nor mosque but a museum in the city of Istanbul.

Things became even more counterintuitive in 1448. The Byzantine Emperor John VIII Palaiologos died without an heir. Several men, including Constantine (Palaiologo's younger brother), asked Murad II for help to claim the Byzantine throne. Despite what had happened a few years earlier, Murad II backed Constantine and, in January 1449, he became the new Byzantine Emperor Constantine XI. After Murad II died, he threatened to release one of Mehmed II's brothers (Orhan was being held as the result of a prisoner exchange), a threat which if carried out could trigger another Ottoman civil war (It was often the case that when the sultan died, a power struggle broke out amongst claimants). It was the only threat with any bite the Byzantines had left, but it was made from too weak a position and served as the pretext Mehmed II needed to mobilise his forces. While it's true that he was going to attack anyway, he was a man of faith and wouldn't have broken a truce arbitrarily. Instead, Constantine XI played into his hands.

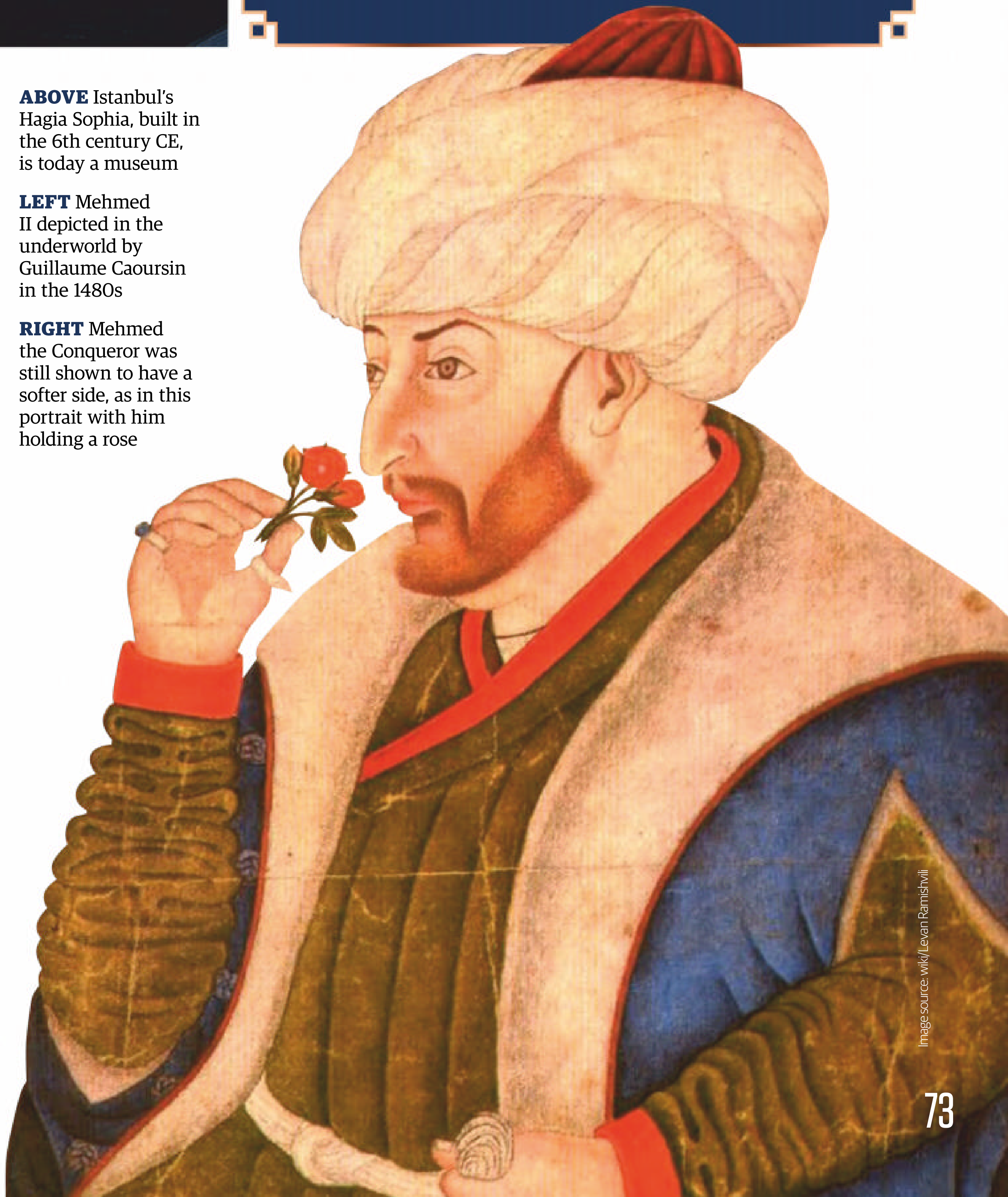
With the sounds of war in the air, Constantine XI looked to the West for help and offered the same reward as many emperors had done before: the reunification of the Christian churches. Nicholas V was pope at the time and he genuinely wanted to help Constantinople; however, Europe was in its usual divided state, and with two recent devastating defeats at the hands of the Ottomans, there was little appetite to assist. On 12 December 1452, the Catholic and Orthodox churches were reunited, but it didn't last even 12 months. Nevertheless, given the previous 400 years of acrimony, it was a remarkable achievement even if the preaching of a crusade ultimately came to nothing. Pope Nicholas V ended up sending a small fleet to aid Constantinople, but it was never going to be enough to tip the balance of power.

Interestingly, Mehmed II wanted the city but not the bloodshed. This can be seen by the fact that his ambassadors

**ABOVE** Istanbul's Hagia Sophia, built in the 6th century CE, is today a museum

**LEFT** Mehmed II depicted in the underworld by Guillaume Caoursin in the 1480s

**RIGHT** Mehmed the Conqueror was still shown to have a softer side, as in this portrait with him holding a rose



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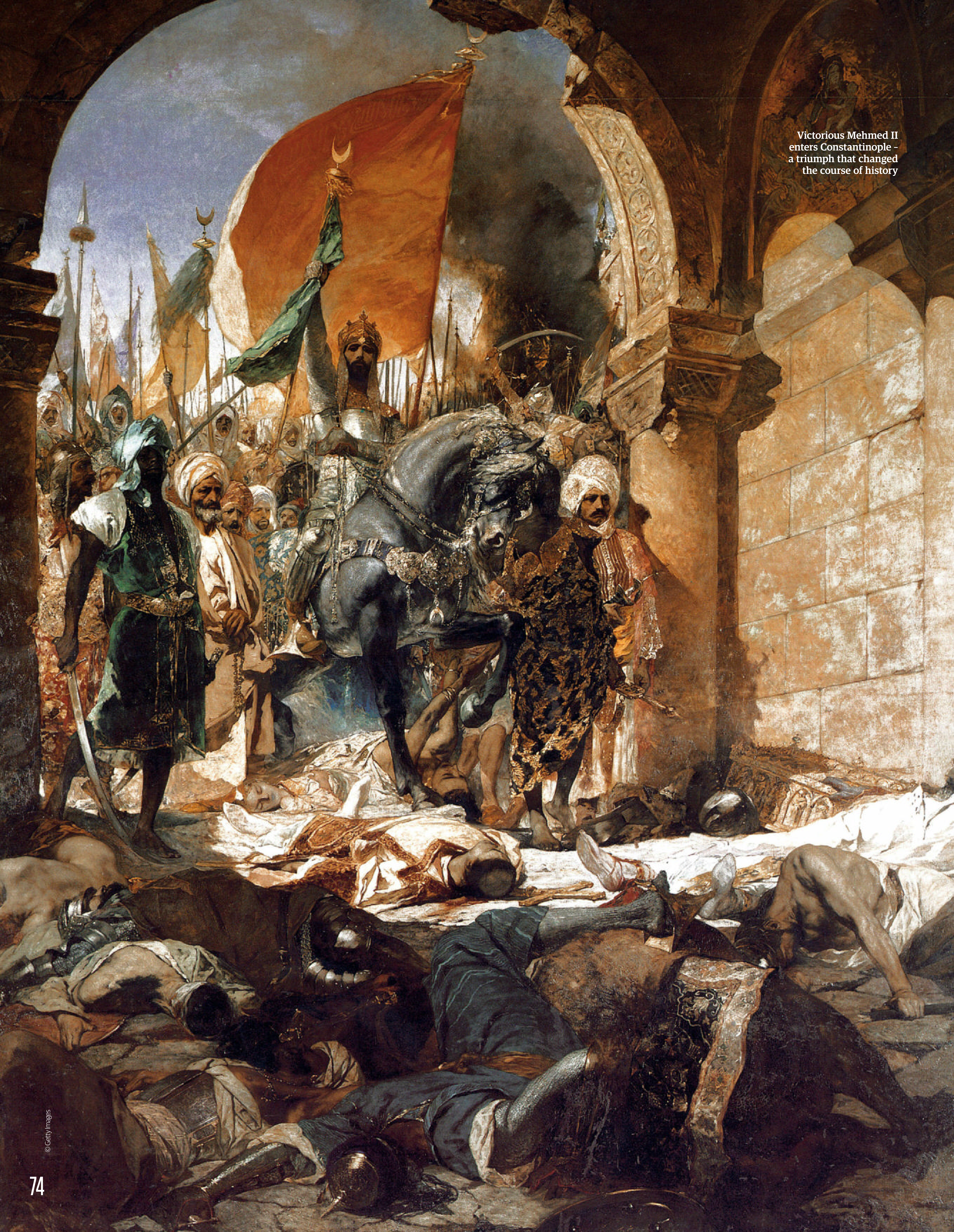

Victorious Mehmed II enters Constantinople – a triumph that changed the course of history

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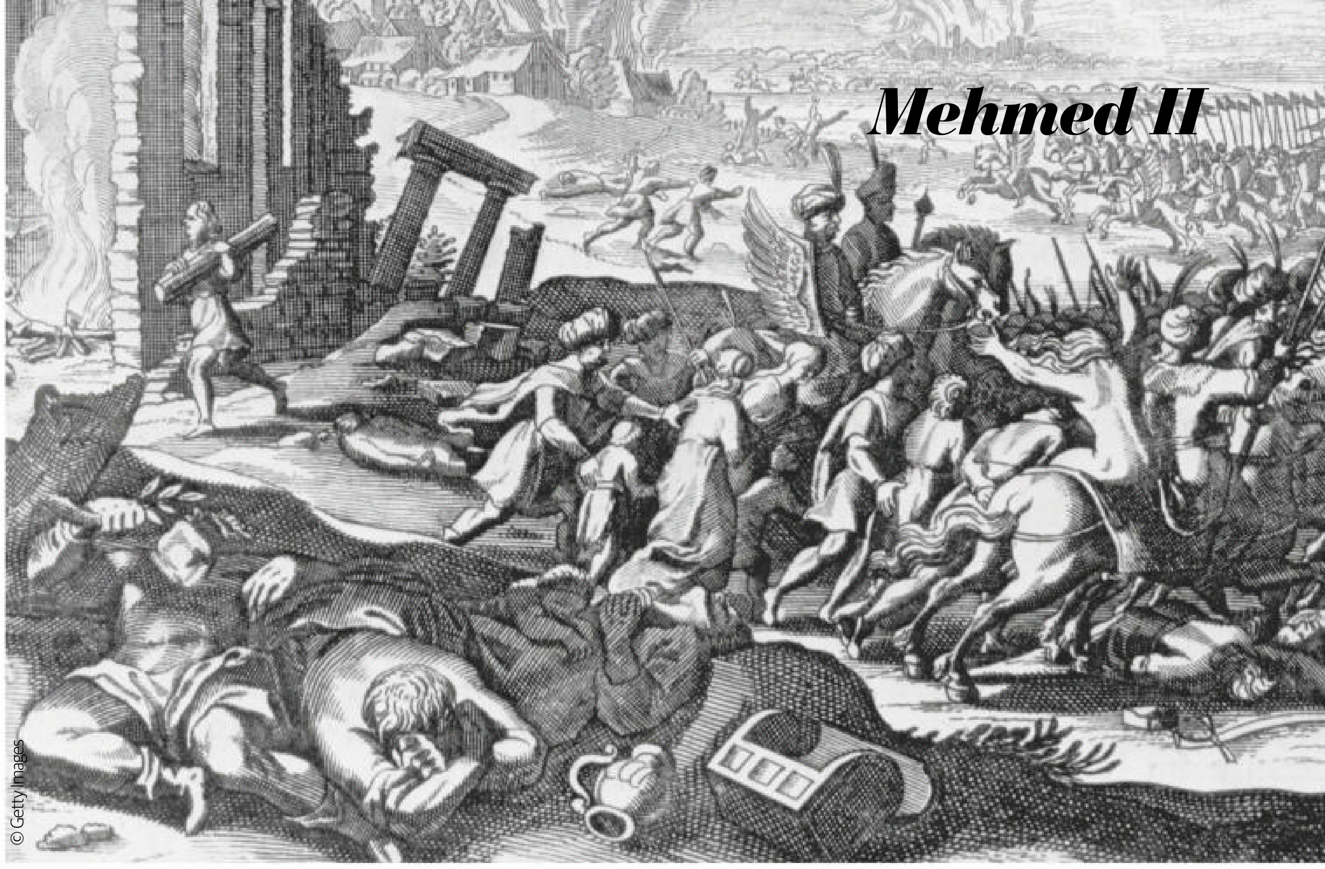

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**ABOVE** The Ottomans sacked Constantinople in 1453, marking the end of the Byzantine Empire

approached Constantine with a generous offer: in exchange for the surrender of Constantinople, the emperor's life would be spared, and he could continue to rule in Mistra (southern Greece) as a vassal. His reply has been preserved by Sphrantzes: "To surrender the city to you is beyond my authority or anyone else's who lives in it, for all of us, after taking the mutual decision, shall die out of free will without sparing our lives."

The two sides had now fixed their positions.

The siege took about eight weeks (6 April to 29 May 1453), a remarkably short amount of time, especially considering that this was one of the most famous sieges in history. It is also a salient reminder of how things had changed compared to the nine-year siege of Bursa. The consequences arising from the conquest of Constantinople cannot be overstated. It was, quite literally, the end of Christendom in the East and (arguably) the end of the Roman Empire.

The Byzantine emperors were considered to be Greek by the rest of Europe, however (and somewhat unexpectedly) the Byzantines were proud of their Roman heritage, and even though they had been using Greek as the lingua franca for about 900 years, the emperors believed themselves to be Roman emperors and used the title Caesar. When this Christian Greek Orthodox capital fell, the other great centres of Orthodox Christianity, Kiev and Moscow, picked up the baton. In fact, about 80 years later, the grand princes of Moscow changed their title to the more exalted Tsar, the Russian for Caesar. The fact that the title of Caesar was now legitimately vacant was one of the few things the Ottomans and the Russians would ever agree on, and the Ottoman sultans also added Caesar to their list of titles. But Mehmed II earned another title on the historic day of his conquest, that of Fatih, which simply means 'conqueror' and, like William in England, he was to be the only ruler of his dynasty ever to earn the title.

"To surrender the city is beyond my authority. We shall die out of free will without sparing our lives"

Constantinople was the first of dozens of successful Ottoman sieges and campaigns led by Fatih Sultan Mehmed, who died at the relatively young age of 49, apparently of natural causes. Or it could be he was just worn out after conducting so many campaigns with such vigour.

Titles in hierarchies are important, as can be shown around 100 years later at another high point in Ottoman history under the rule of Suleiman I. In the West he is often referred to as Suleiman the Magnificent and he certainly was that, but in the East he is known as Suleiman the Lawgiver because he established three parallel legal structures that covered the needs of both his Muslim and non-Muslim subjects and enabled the sensible rule of a polyglot, multi-religious empire.

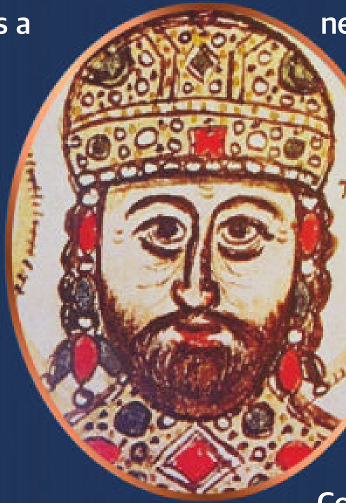
His full list of titles reveals the scope of his powers: "Sultan of the Ottomans, Allah's deputy on Earth, Lord of the Lords of this world, Possessor of men's necks, King of believers and unbelievers, King of Kings, Emperor of the East and the West, Majestic Caesar, Emperor of the Chakans of great authority, Prince and Lord of the most happy constellation, Seal of victory, Refuge of all the people in the whole entire world, the shadow of the almighty dispensing quiet on the Earth."

Whole articles could be written on what each title means, but it is fascinating to home in on "Emperor of the East and the West, Majestic Caesar". There, amongst all the other more exotic titles, are two direct references to the old Roman titles. By the 1500s, Rome was a pale shadow of its former self. It might still have been the epicentre of religion, but any real power it had once held was long gone, and the city was now regularly invaded by French and German forces.

By the time Mehmed conquered Constantinople, the population had declined by about 90% from its peak, and there was even farmland inside its walls, but the Ottomans reversed this decline and the city was rebuilt. The foundations of an old Byzantine palace became the foundations for the new Ottoman palace of Topkapi and the epicentre of a vibrant empire whose fourth and final capital was Constantinople. The city itself became an important trading hub with a rapidly growing population. In the eyes of the Ottomans, their possession of the greatest city of antiquity meant that they were the legitimate inheritors of the title Caesar. The Caesars were now Ottoman.

## The beaten hero

### Who was the man that Mehmed II defeated?



© Alamy

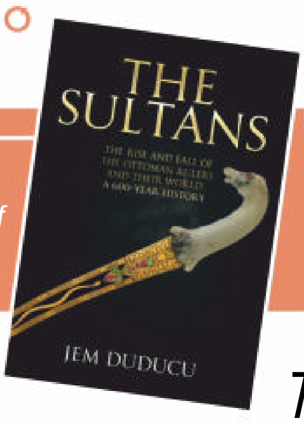
Of course, if Mehmed II was the winner at the Siege of Constantinople there had to be a loser, and that was Constantine XI. In the last hours, he was seen fighting on the walls. He was a brave man who had almost nothing to confront an enemy with almost infinite resources. Had he handed over the city without a fight, he would've become a pariah. Instead, he's now an unofficial saint in the Greek Orthodox Church, and many legends have sprung up around him.

It was said there was a prophecy that Constantinople would be founded by one Constantine and lost by another (which is true, but the 'legend' seems to have post-dated 1453). Another legend says that an angel rescued Constantine XI by turning him into a marble statue and placing him in a cave near the Golden Gate, where he waits patiently to be brought to life to win back the city for Christendom. This is why he is sometimes called 'the marble emperor'.

Finally, the name of Constantine was a rallying cry for Greeks during their war of independence from the Ottoman Empire and he's a national hero in Greece. Constantine XI is both the end point of the 1000-year history of the Byzantine Empire but also (arguably) the full stop to the Roman Empire.

**EXPERT BIO**

Jem Duducu is the author of *The Sultans: The Rise And Fall Of The Ottoman Rulers And Their World: A 600-Year History.*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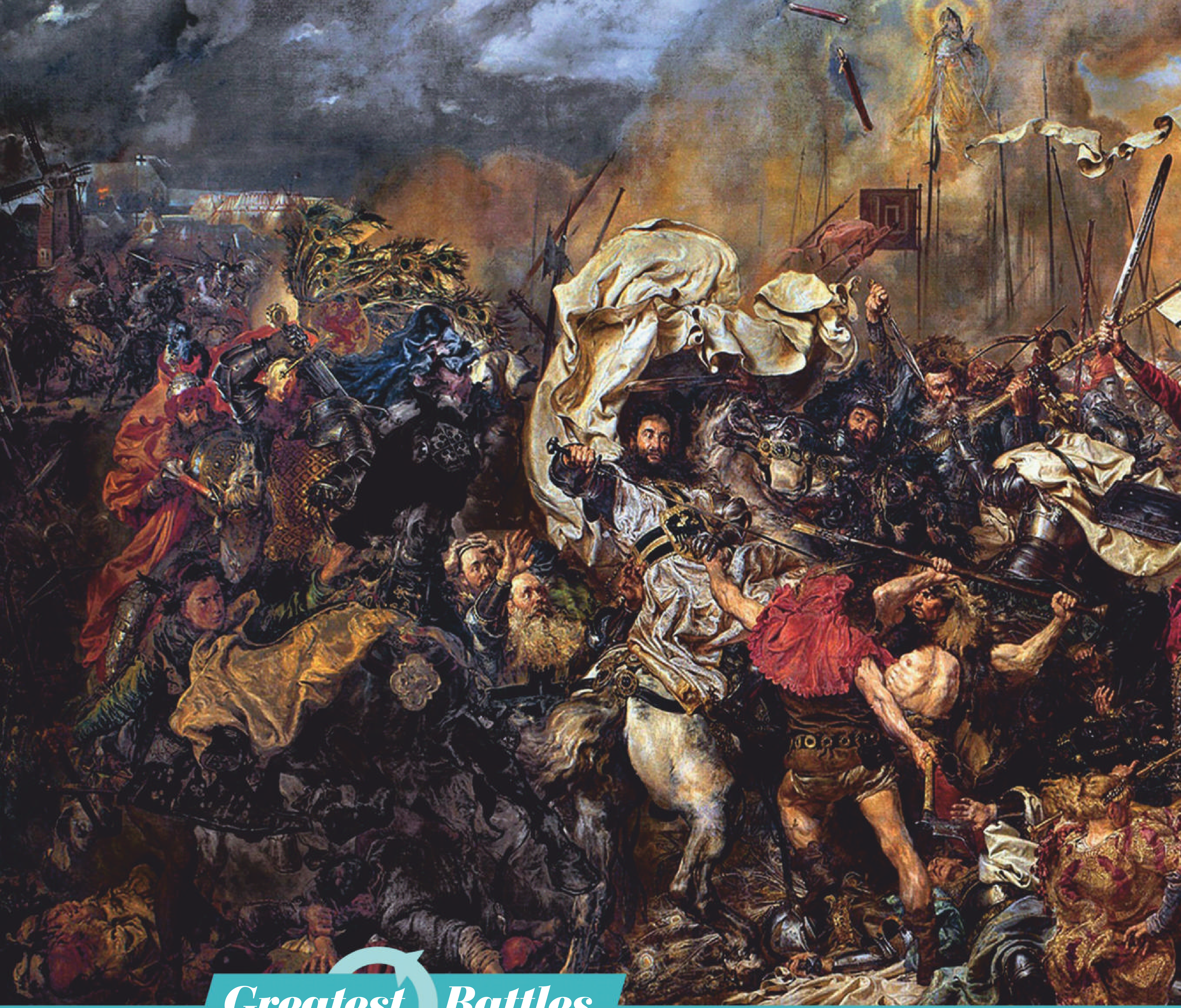


Greatest Battles

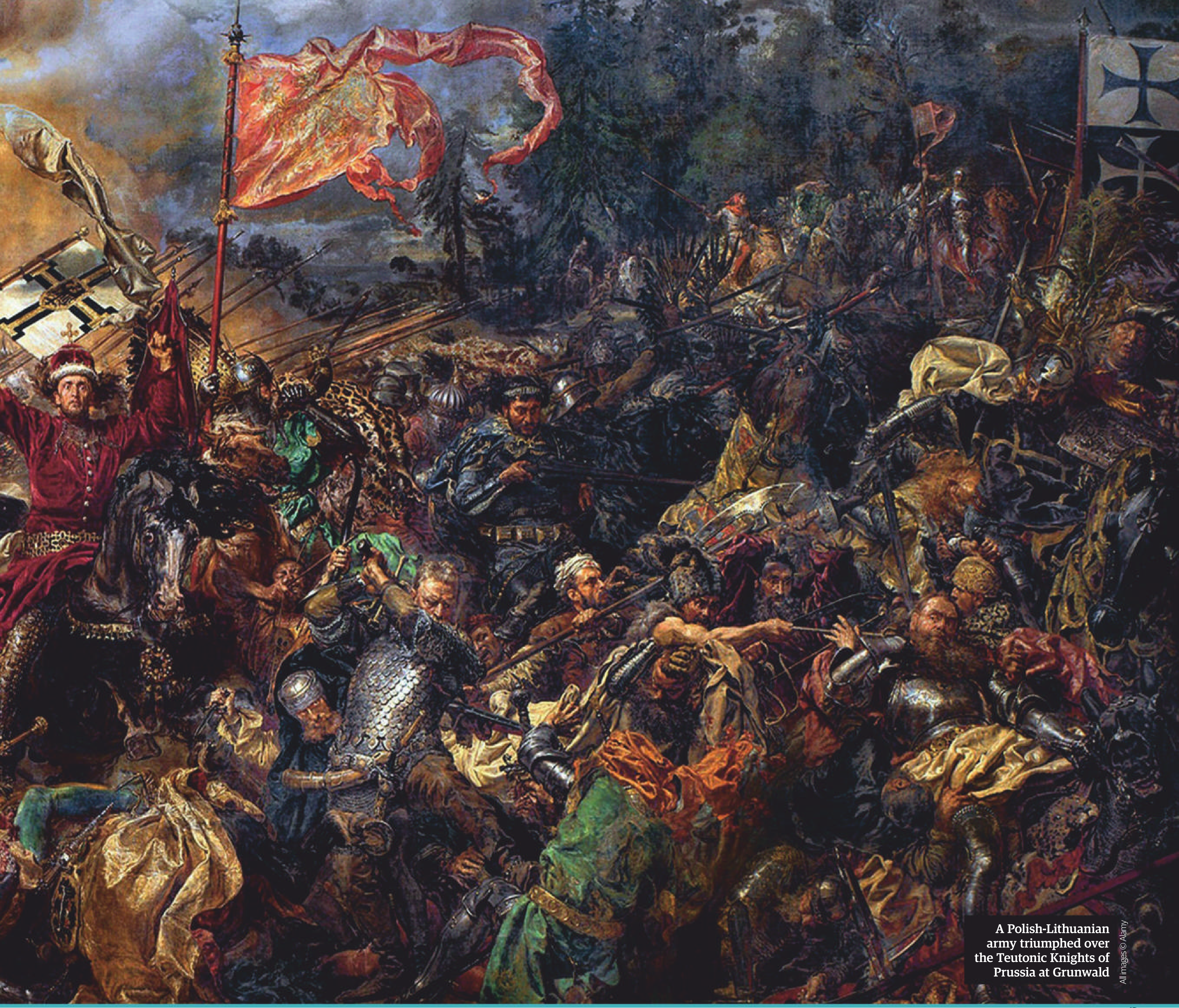
# BATTLE OF GRUNWALD

## PRUSSIA (MODERN POLAND), 15 JULY 1410

Written by William E Welsh

Long columns of the Teutonic Order's army filed past the village of Grunwald in Prussia at first light on 15 July, 1410. After a 15-hour forced march to head off the Polish-Lithuanian host, they had at last caught up with their foe.

Grand Master Ulrich von Jungingen scanned the ground east of the village and decided that it would suffice for a contest of arms. He liked what he saw. A triangular patch of open ground between the villages of Grunwald, Tannenberg and Ludwigsdorf would offer his mounted knights sufficient room for the classic shock charge of heavy cavalry. Upon his orders, pioneers, commoners and foot soldiers began digging pits to impede the advance of the enemy's cavalry. They covered the traps with tree branches and grass to make them difficult, if not impossible, for the enemy horsemen to spot before they charged.



A Polish-Lithuanian army triumphed over the Teutonic Knights of Prussia at Grunwald

All images © Alamy

Thousands of cavalrymen deployed for battle in a line facing southeast that stretched for two miles. The most respected of these troops were the brother knights and sergeants-at-arms. The Poles called them the Black Crusaders in reference to the white mantles they wore over their armour, which bore the black cross of the order. Shouts rang out, weapons and armour rattled, and horses stamped and neighed as the army readied itself to defend its lands against a foe that substantially outnumbered it.

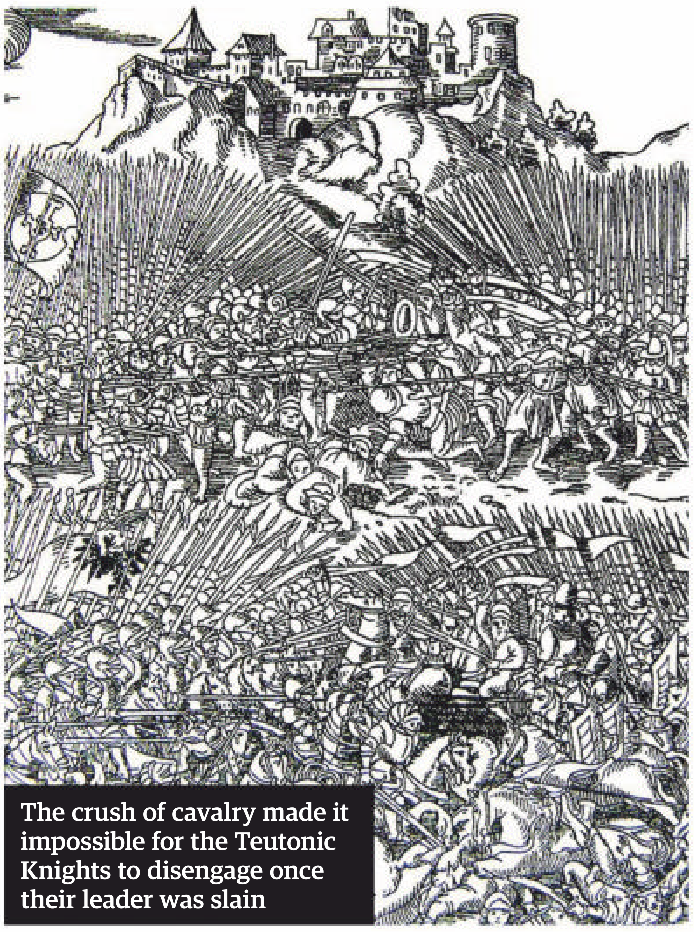
## SUMMONED TO POLAND

The Order of Brothers of the German House of Saint Mary in Jerusalem, which became known as the Teutonic Order, was established in 1192 during the Third Crusade. Eclipsed by more well-established military orders in the Holy Land, the order readily accepted an offer in 1226 from Polish Duke Conrad of Masovia to settle on a parcel of territory known as the Chelmno Land to help the Poles in containing the pagan Prussians and converting them to Christianity. Conrad offered to allow the Teutonic Knights to hold the Chelmno Land as a Polish fief until such time as the Prussians were subjugated.

But Teutonic Grand Master Hermann von Salza had a grander scheme in mind. The Teutonic Order had previously accepted a similar arrangement in 1211 from Hungarian King Andrew II to settle the Burzenland region of Transylvania to keep Turkic nomads known as Cumans out of Hungary. Andrew evicted the Teutonic Knights in 1225 when they tried to usurp his suzerainty.

Bitter over the order's treatment in Hungary, Von Salza persuaded Pope Gregory IX to put the order under papal protection, which superseded Polish suzerainty. He also convinced Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II to allow the Teutonic Order to keep all the lands it conquered in Prussia for itself. In so doing, Von Salza succeeded in creating an independent state that became a rival, rather than a vassal, of Poland. After absorbing the Livonian Brothers of the Sword in 1237, the order organised itself into both a Livonian and a Prussian branch.

Following their conquest of Prussia in 1283, the Teutonic Knights focused their efforts on converting the pagans of Lithuania. The order also snapped up adjacent lands at every opportunity. For example, they annexed Pomeralia in 1308 and with it the strategic port of Gdansk. This blocked Poland's access to the Baltic Sea. Afterwards, the order established a monopoly on trade passing through



The crush of cavalry made it impossible for the Teutonic Knights to disengage once their leader was slain

Gdansk. Poland attempted to take Pomeralia from the order in a six-year war that began in 1326, but was unsuccessful.

## POLISH-LITHUANIAN UNION

Although Lithuania had become an organised state by that time, it lacked the resources to defeat the order. Fortunately for the Lithuanians, the Poles wanted to unify the two realms through marriage. The Polish nobility invited Grand Duke Jagiello of Lithuania to marry their child-queen Jadwiga in 1386. They set several conditions on their offer. First, he was to convert to Christianity. Second, he was to oversee the conversion of the Lithuanians to Roman Catholicism. And third, he was to use the combined military resources of Poland and Lithuania to recover Polish ancestral lands lost to the Teutonic Order. He accepted the offer and became King Wladyslaw II Jagiello of Poland.

The conversion of Lithuania's pagan population threatened the existence of the Teutonic Order since its primary mission was converting pagans to Christianity. They scoffed at the Lithuanians' conversion, which they considered a deception.

Although the Polish-Lithuanian union had many disputes with the Teutonic Knights, their principal objectives were to recover Polish ancestral lands and Pomeralia. Jagiello installed his former cousin and rival Vytautas as Lithuania's grand duke in 1401. The two rulers forged a military alliance in which both parties pledged to come to the aid of the other.

## THE GREAT WAR BEGINS

In May 1409 a revolt in Teutonic-occupied Samogitia, a region of Lithuania on the Baltic Sea, threatened to spiral out of control. Von Jungingen threatened to invade the Lithuanian heartland if Vytautas didn't control the Samogitian rebels. The Poles came to Lithuania's defence and threatened to invade Prussia.

The Teutonic grand master believed that his disciplined troops could defeat the combined Polish-Lithuanian army. He also expected that his ally, King Sigismund of Hungary, would attack Poland in the south, but Sigismund secretly informed Jagiello that he would not enter the war.

The war began that August when the Teutonic Knights captured two Polish strongholds on the River Vistula. After retaking one of them, Jagiello negotiated an extended truce, set to expire in June 1410. This would afford him time to prepare for an invasion of Prussia.

Just before the truce was due to expire, Polish engineers completed a 450-metre pontoon bridge across the Vistula. This would enable the Poles and Lithuanians to strike deep into Teutonic territory east of the river. Jagiello's Polish army crossed the pontoon bridge at Czerwinsk at the beginning of July and joined forces with Vytautas' Lithuanian army. The allied army, which included Czech, Wallachian and Tatar mercenaries, crossed the Teutonic frontier on July 9.

Von Jungingen hurried east with his army. His chief concern was preventing the allies from reaching the Teutonic capital at Marienberg. The two sides squared off on opposite sides of the River Drewenz on 10 July. Jagiello declined to cross and turned east to continue his flanking march through the heavily forested region east of the Vistula. Von Jungingen overtook the allied army, which was camped on the shores of Lake Lubien, on 15 July.

## AN UNPROVEN ARMY

The Teutonic Knights had 51 banners, or cavalry units, assembled for the battle. Reinforcing the Teutonic brethren were secular knights from Westphalia, Swabia, Austria, Bavaria and Frisia. The Teutonic infantry was composed of armed pilgrims and local levies whose main responsibility was to guard the wagons. The mounted guest crusaders formed up on the left of the battle line, the heavily armoured Teutonic cavalry held the centre and right.

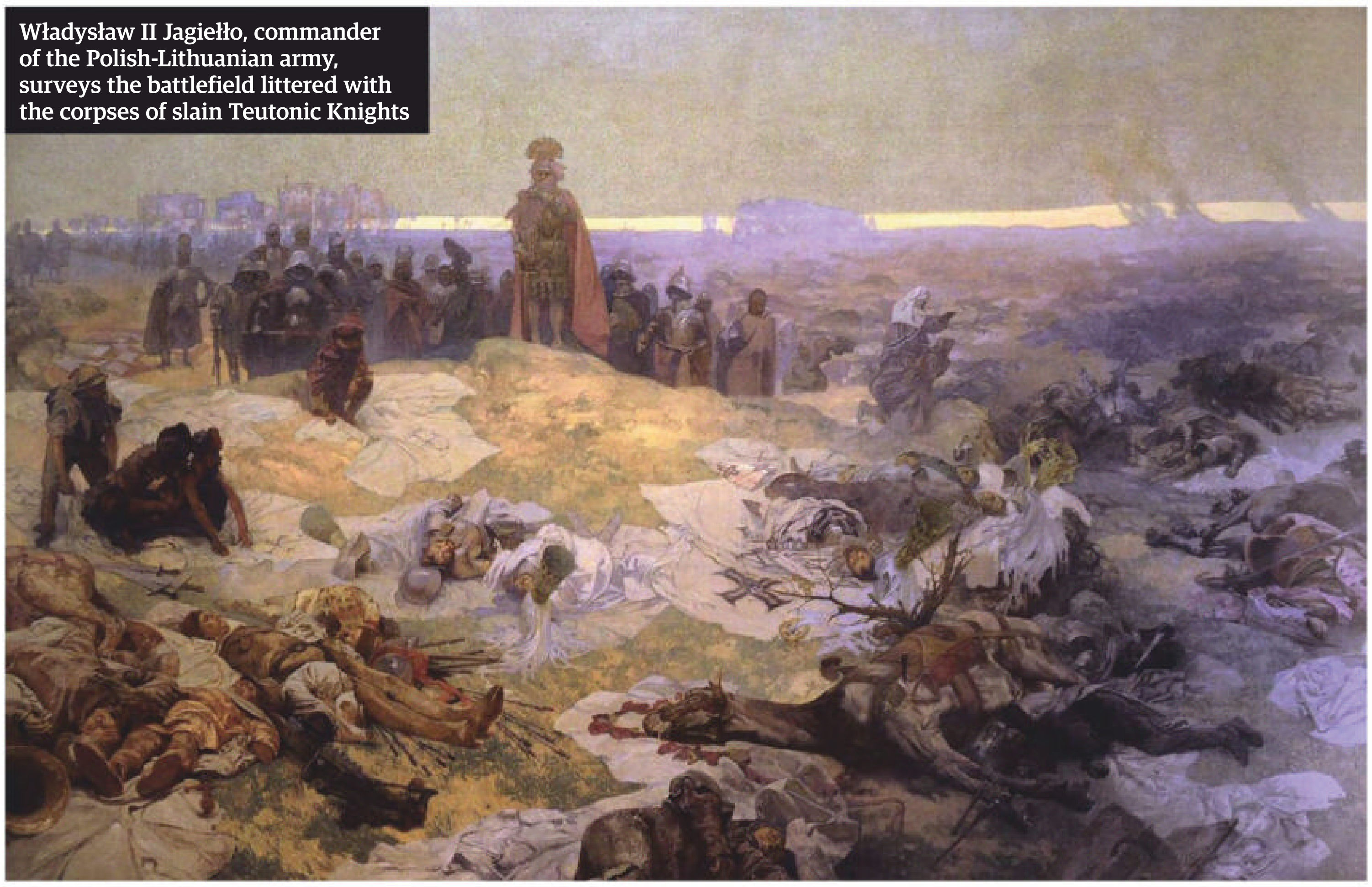
The allied army was stronger and better led than the grand master imagined. Jagiello had extensive combat experience and so did his senior commanders. He was a cautious but resolute leader on campaign. Yet the combined Polish-Lithuanian army lacked uniformity and its disparate elements had never fought together. It remained to be seen whether it could stand up to the vaunted, battle-hardened Teutonic Knights.

Although Von Jungingen's army was smaller, his troops were better armed, better trained and more disciplined. Taken on the whole, his army was more cohesive than the Polish king's forces. The Teutonic Knights were full-time, professional warriors, whereas the Poles and Lithuanians were part-time soldiers who spent far less time campaigning than the cross-bearers.

When Tatar scouts reported that the crusaders were deployed for battle on the morning of 15 July, Jagiello countermarched two miles from his bivouac to accept the invitation to battle.

> **"The Teutonic Knights were professional warriors, whereas the Poles and Lithuanians were part-time and spent far less time campaigning"**

Władysław II Jagiełło, commander of the Polish-Lithuanian army, surveys the battlefield littered with the corpses of slain Teutonic Knights



Unlike the cross-bearers, the Poles and Lithuanians arrived fresh after marching a negligible distance and having had a good night's rest. The 50 banners of Polish cavalry formed up on the left, and the 40 banners of Lithuanian cavalry deployed on the right. The Czech knights deployed in the centre. The two sides were separated by 5,500 metres of ground that gradually sloped downhill from the Teutonic position.

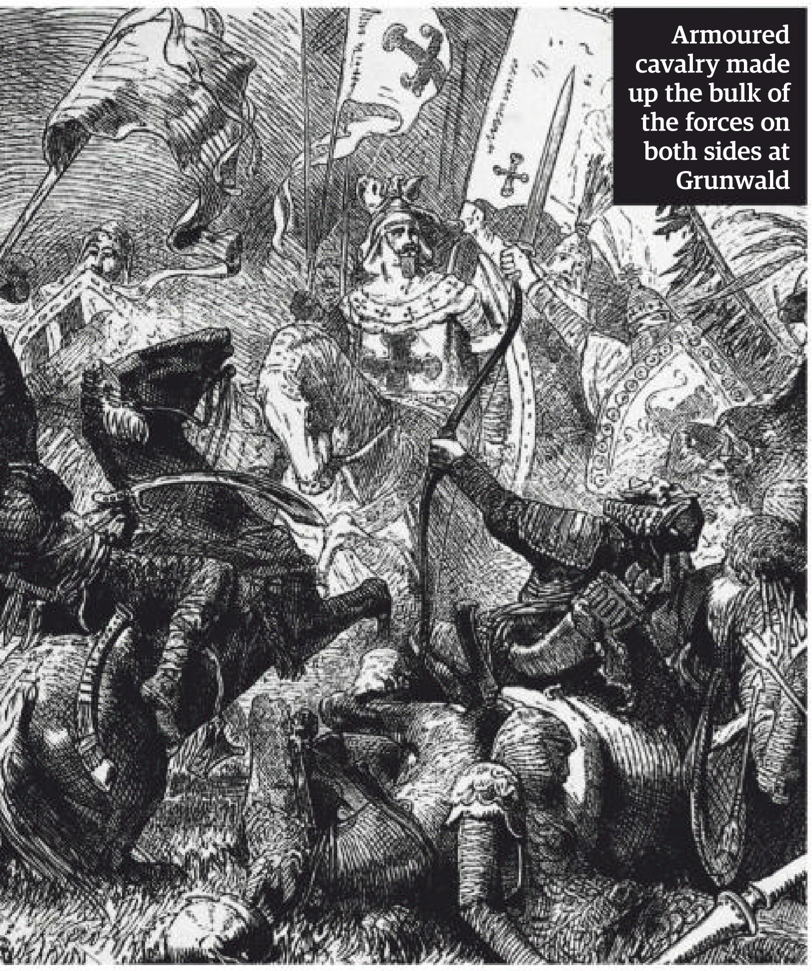
The Polish knights and squires were equipped with lances and swords like the Teutonic Knights, but the majority of the Lithuanians lacked the armour and weapons essential for close combat. They were lightly armoured and fought in the Asian style with bows, spears and javelins.

Jagiello established his command post at 6am on a knoll situated behind his right wing. His mounted bodyguards took up position nearby. Zyndram of Maszkowice, the Polish army's chief-of-staff, took command of the left wing, while Vytautas assumed command of the right wing. After attending a church service, Jagiello knighted several hundred men.

Von Jungingen sent two heralds, each of whom was bearing a sword, to announce the Teutonic Knights' intention to offer battle. The heralds told Jagiello that the grand master offered the swords as a gift in the hope that the Polish king would find them useful if he ever chose to fight a battle. The taunt was meant to enrage Jagiello, but the commander was not easily baited.

### SHOCK CHARGE

The battle began in mid-morning with a headlong charge by the Lithuanian right wing. The German knights and Teutonic sergeants repulsed them easily enough. A counter-charge routed the Lithuanians and drove them from the field. Although Lithuanian

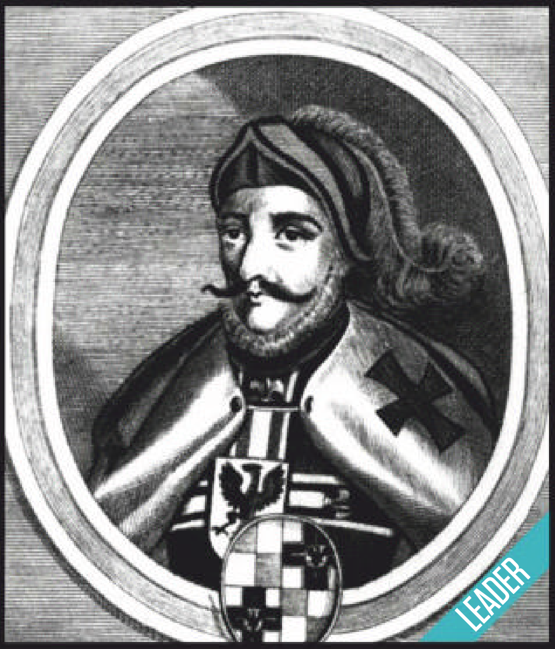


Armoured cavalry made up the bulk of the forces on both sides at Grunwald

## TEUTONIC ORDER

TOTAL
**21,000**

| CAVALRY | INFANTRY |
|---|---|
| 15,000 | 6,000 |



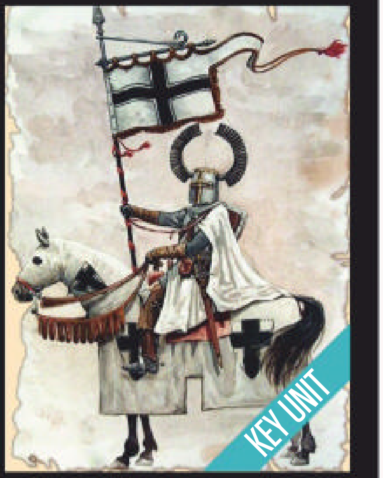
### GRAND MASTER ULRICH VON JUNGINGEN

Much of his early career was unexceptional, and he was a divisive figure within the order.

+ A courageous and skilled warrior

− Hot-tempered and prone to making rash decisions

### TEUTONIC KNIGHTS



The mounted knights clad in full-plate armour were the order's principal offensive arm.

+ Their powerful shock charge delivered crushing force against enemy formations

− They lost much of their advantage if unhorsed in battle

### LANCE

The 14-foot wooden lance had a metal tip of iron that was shaped like a spear head.

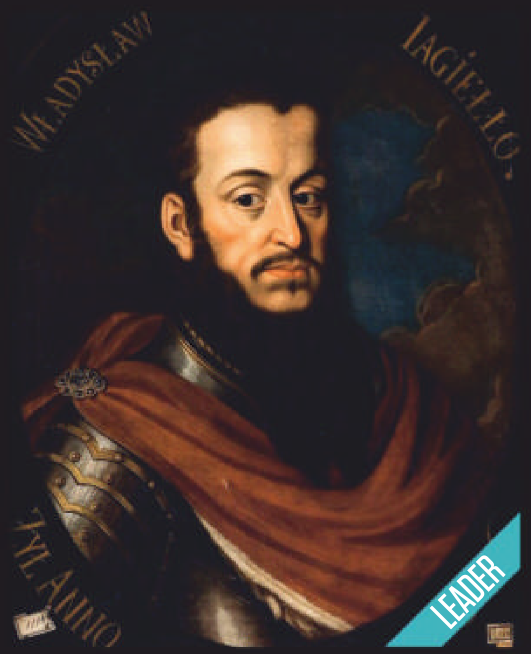
+ A blow delivered with the weight of rider and horse behind it could puncture enemy armour

− It typically shattered on contact in the first charge

## POLISH-LITHUANIAN ALLIANCE

TOTAL
**50,000**

| CAVALRY | INFANTRY |
|---|---|
| 40,000 | 10,000 |



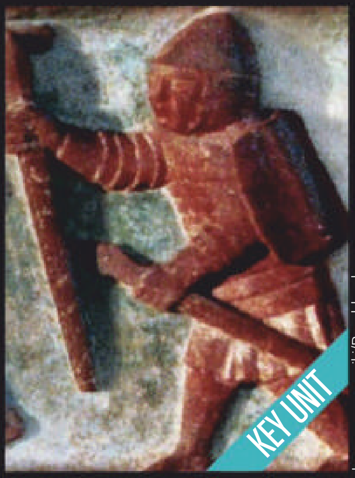
### POLISH KING WŁADYSŁAW II JAGIEŁŁO

An astute tactician, skilled diplomat and progressive leader.

+ Had extensive experience of leading troops against a variety of foes

− Often overly cautious on campaigns and in battle

### LITHUANIAN BOYARS



These swordsmen constituted the backbone of the Polish-Lithuanian infantry.

+ Good protection from pavise (shield), mail hauberk and conical helmet

− Vulnerable to heavy cavalry charges and missile fire at close range

Image source: wiki/Bumblauskas

### LONG SWORD

A powerful blow from the double-edged sword often proved fatal for the enemy.

+ Made by skilled craftsmen, they were unlikely to break in battle

− Required user to be at close-quarters with opponent

accounts of the battle claim that the flight was a feigned retreat, it is implausible because there was no ambush force waiting to fall on those crusaders who gave chase. Taking command of the reliable Smolensk and Czech knights in the centre, Vytautas led them against the Teutonic centre. Before doing so, he implored Jagiello to send the Polish cavalry into battle, but the commander-in-chief was waiting for Von Jungingen to make the next move.

It was not long in coming. Von Jungingen massed his troops to assail the exposed right flank of the allied army. The Teutonic strike force, which consisted of about one-third of the army, rode towards Tannenberg on their extreme left, and then turned south in a long column that was two banners wide and eight deep. They slammed into the Polish flank at noon, but were unable to fight their way the king's position. Meanwhile, a substantial force of Lithuanians returned to the field. With their composite bows, the horse archers fired barrages of arrows into the ranks of the Black Crusaders. Von Jungingen and his beleaguered knights tried to cut their way out, but a Polish knight ran his lance through the grand master's throat. The Teutonic army succumbed to panic as word spread of his death. Units became entangled and few managed to escape.

Von Jungingen might have won the day if he had launched a surprise attack at dawn on the allied encampment. The Teutonic army lost 8,000 troops. Although the number of Teutonic prisoners is not recorded, it likely was the majority of those who survived. Very few made it back to Marienberg to deliver the grim tidings. The allies lost 5,000 men.

## TWILIGHT OF THE ORDER

Polish and Lithuanian forces then besieged Marienberg on 25 July. A lack of good siege equipment and an outbreak of dysentery compelled Jagiello to raise the siege after 57 days. Through the treaty, known as the First Peace of Thorn, the order agreed to allow free trade on the Vistula and withdraw from Samogitia.

Both internal and external forces brought about the ultimate collapse of the order. In 1454 a confederation of 19 Prussian cities revolted against them, and the order went to war against the Prussian Confederation and Poland in the Thirteen Years' War. At the Second Peace of Thorn, Pomerelia was renamed West Prussia and became an autonomous region under Poland's suzerainty. The Teutonic Order continued to rule Eastern Prussia, but only as a Polish fief. In a last bit of irony, many of the order's Catholics converted to Lutheranism. At the conclusion of the final Polish-Teutonic War in 1521, the duchy became a secular power.

The Teutonic Order continued to rule East Prussia, but its grand master was a vassal of the Polish king. This was reaffirmed in the last war in the early 16th century. At the conclusion of the conflict, East Prussia became a secularized duchy under the control of the Polish crown. Stripped of their reason for being, the Teutonic Knights faded into history.

# 15 JULY 1410

How the Polish-Lithuanian forces inflicted a crushing defeat on the vaunted Teutonic Order

### 01 Teutonic army offers battle

The Teutonic Order deploys at 6am in two lines, with its left flank near the village of Tannenberg. The Polish-Lithuanian army arrives a short time later and forms itself into three lines. Although Grand Master Ulrich von Jungingen instructs his troops to dig camouflaged pits to blunt a Polish cavalry charge, he later orders his soldiers to abandon them and pull back far enough to allow his cannons a clear field of fire.

### 02 Lithuanian-Tatar charge fails

Lithuanian Grand Duke Vytautas perceives a weakness in the Teutonic line and orders his right wing of the allied army to charge at mid-morning. The lightly armoured Lithuanian and Tartar horsemen charge the Teutonic Knights' left wing. The German knights stationed on the left stoutly defend their positions. An hour-long melee ensues in which the more heavily armoured crusaders rout the Lithuanians. The Germans pursue the defeated Lithuanians off the field.

### 03 Frontal charge against the Teutonic centre

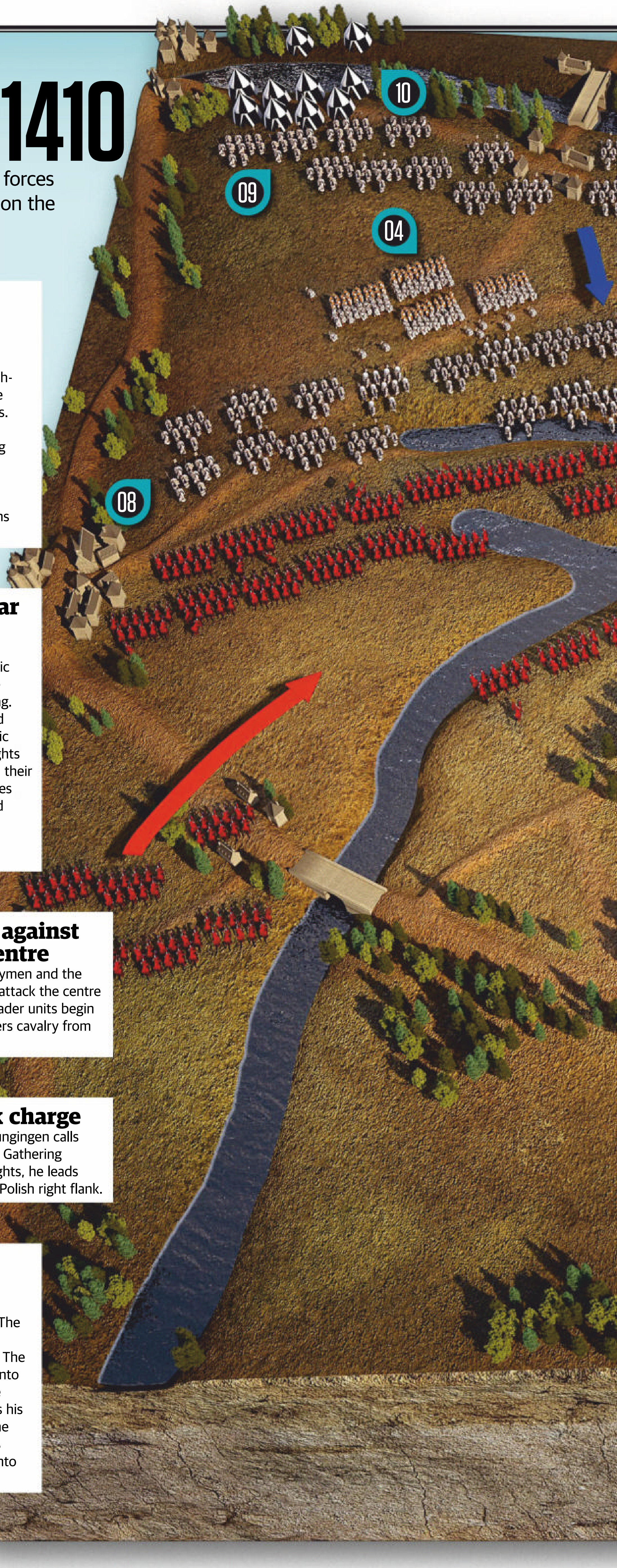
Vytautas rallies his Smolensk cavalrymen and the mounted Czech mercenaries. They attack the centre of the Teutonic line. When the crusader units begin to give ground, Von Jungingen orders cavalry from his reserve to join the fight.

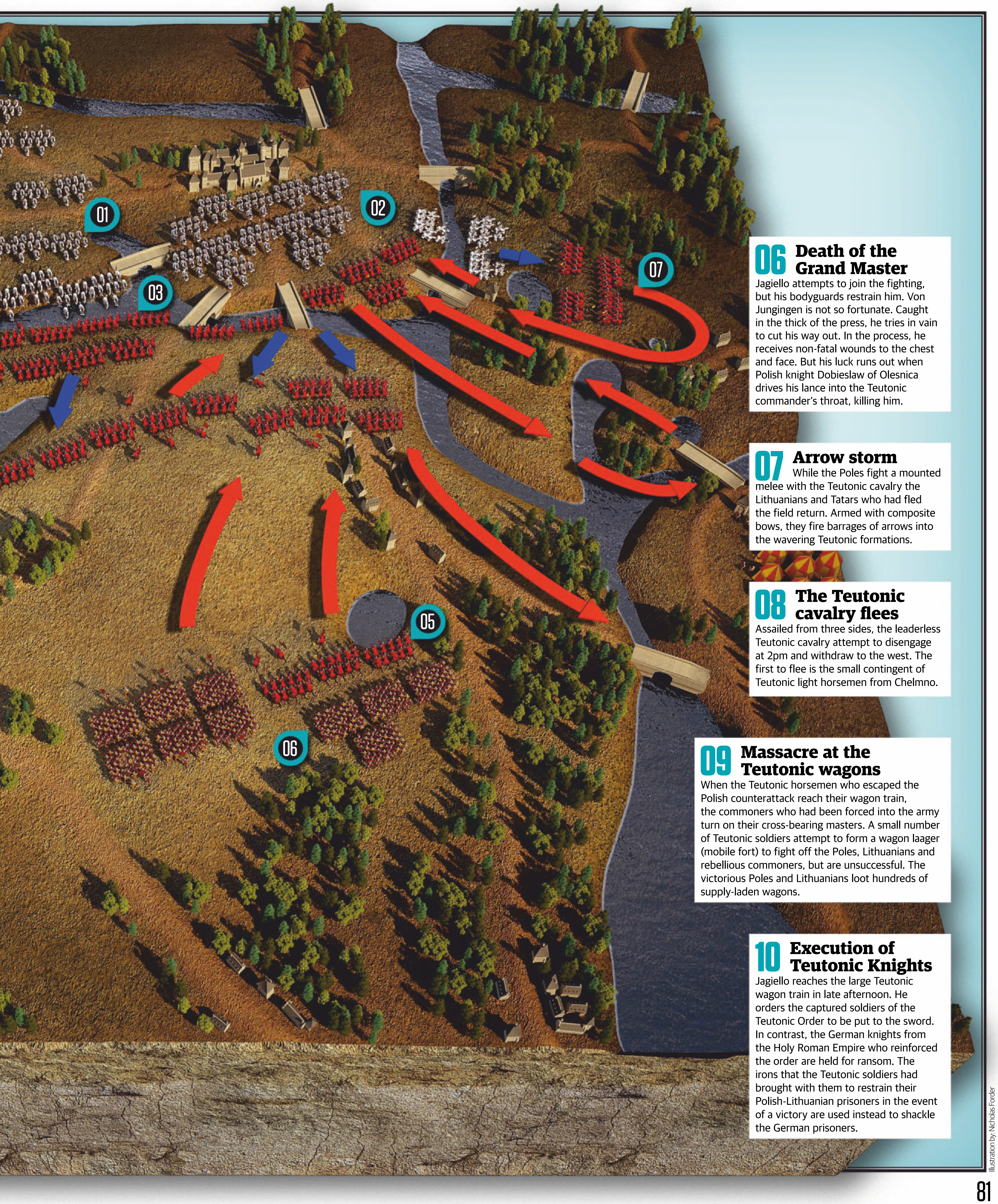
### 04 Teutonic shock charge

Grand Master Ulrich von Jungingen calls forward his reserve cavalry at 11am. Gathering together 16 banners of his best knights, he leads them in a grand charge against the Polish right flank.

### 05 Defence of the Polish King

The Poles change front to defend against the Teutonic shock charge. The Polish royal bodyguards shield King Wladyslaw Jagiello from the attack. The lance-wielding cross-bearers crash into the Polish flank at noon. One of the white-robed Teutonic Knights fights his way to within striking distance of the Polish king's position, but the king's secretary thrusts his broken lance into the attacker's side.





## 06 Death of the Grand Master

Jagiello attempts to join the fighting, but his bodyguards restrain him. Von Jungingen is not so fortunate. Caught in the thick of the press, he tries in vain to cut his way out. In the process, he receives non-fatal wounds to the chest and face. But his luck runs out when Polish knight Dobieslaw of Olesnica drives his lance into the Teutonic commander's throat, killing him.

## 07 Arrow storm

While the Poles fight a mounted melee with the Teutonic cavalry the Lithuanians and Tatars who had fled the field return. Armed with composite bows, they fire barrages of arrows into the wavering Teutonic formations.

## 08 The Teutonic cavalry flees

Assailed from three sides, the leaderless Teutonic cavalry attempt to disengage at 2pm and withdraw to the west. The first to flee is the small contingent of Teutonic light horsemen from Chelmno.

## 09 Massacre at the Teutonic wagons

When the Teutonic horsemen who escaped the Polish counterattack reach their wagon train, the commoners who had been forced into the army turn on their cross-bearing masters. A small number of Teutonic soldiers attempt to form a wagon laager (mobile fort) to fight off the Poles, Lithuanians and rebellious commoners, but are unsuccessful. The victorious Poles and Lithuanians loot hundreds of supply-laden wagons.

## 10 Execution of Teutonic Knights

Jagiello reaches the large Teutonic wagon train in late afternoon. He orders the captured soldiers of the Teutonic Order to be put to the sword. In contrast, the German knights from the Holy Roman Empire who reinforced the order are held for ransom. The irons that the Teutonic soldiers had brought with them to restrain their Polish-Lithuanian prisoners in the event of a victory are used instead to shackle the German prisoners.

Illustration by: Nicholas Forder

# The 'What If' Newspaper

Paris | Interview by Callum McKelvie | 22 Aug 1572

# HUGUENOTS FLEE LIKELY KILLINGS

## Assassination of Admiral Gaspard de Coligny leads to mass exodus of Protestants and Calvinists fearing further violence

**EXCLUSIVE**
**Interview With**

Image source: Penny Roberts

**PROFESSOR PENNY ROBERTS**

Penny Roberts is Professor of Early Modern European History at the University of Warwick. She is the author of *Peace And Authority during The French Religious Wars, c.1560-1600*, among other works, and has appeared on BBC 4's *In Our Time*.

### Who were the Huguenots?

The Huguenots were French Protestants and Calvinist, which means that they embraced the form of Protestantism developed in Geneva by John Calvin and his followers. These ministers were essentially the French Reformed Church in exile and they particularly targeted France. The term Huguenot was first used pejoratively by their opponents, and was only adopted by them in later centuries. The Huguenots constituted a very substantial minority, up to 10% of the population in the mid-16th century, concentrated in the towns and among the nobility. They were significant enough in number to cause problems, but not so many as to pose a serious threat, yet there was always that danger if they were able to win more people over to their cause.

### Who was Admiral Gaspard de Coligny and why was he important?

The Calvinist Church sent ministers to convert French nobles, and so by the middle of the 16th century there was a substantial proportion of Protestants among the nobility. Admiral Gaspard de Coligny was a French aristocrat who became the leader of the Protestant army in France. By 1572, some feared that he, and therefore the Protestants, had too much influence over the king, Charles IX. As with the English Reformation, the crown's support would be key to whether Protestantism would succeed.

### How does this tie into the St Bartholomew's Day Massacre?

The St Bartholomew's Day Massacre took place ten years into the French wars of religion, and that first decade saw Admiral de Coligny and other Protestant nobles leading armies against the crown. In between the wars, however, there were attempts to make peace between the faiths. The first war, from 1562-1563, was followed by a period of official co-existence. The period before 1572 also saw the crown trying to cement agreement by giving concessions to the Protestants in France. In 1570, the royal edict of St-Germain-en-Laye established peace and, to seal it, a marriage was arranged between Marguerite of France (Catholic) and Henry

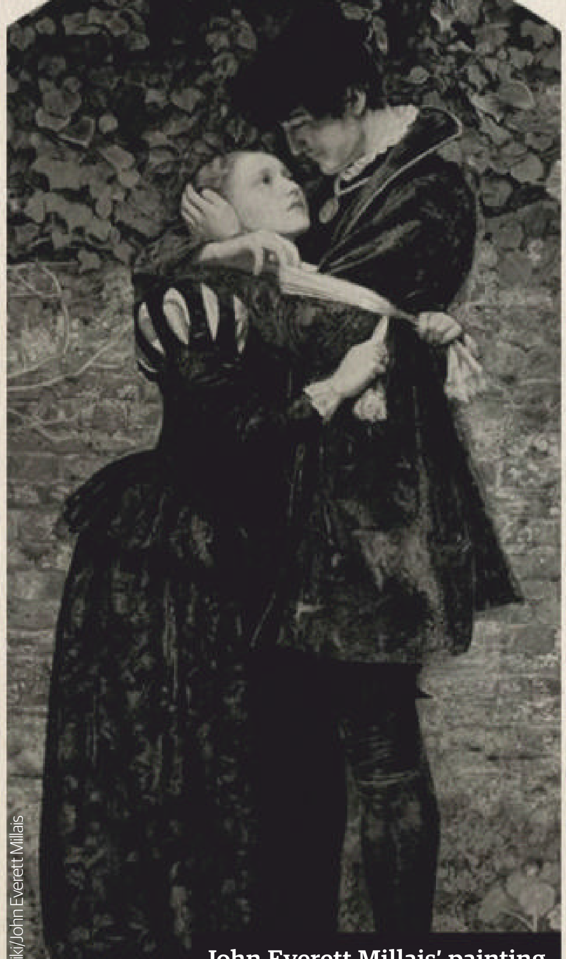
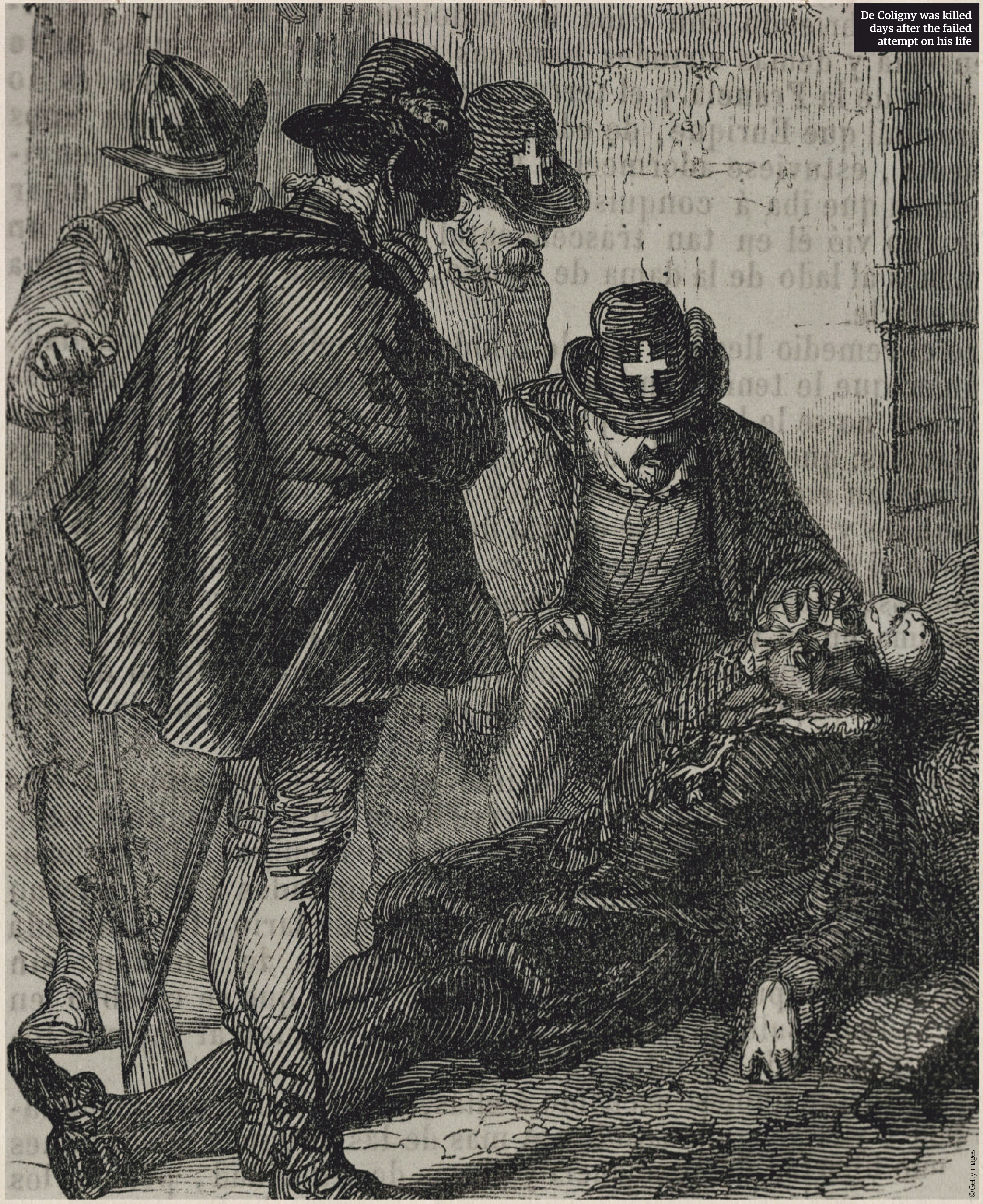


Image source: wiki/John Everett Millais

John Everett Millais' painting depicting two lovers (one Catholic, one Huguenot) on the morning of the massacre



De Coligny was killed days after the failed attempt on his life

© Getty Images

of Navarre (Protestant). In August 1572, the Protestant nobility gathered in Paris to attend the marriage. However, many people were unhappy with this situation. Catholics felt that too many concessions were being made to the Protestants, while the Protestants felt that the peace did not go far enough.

Noble assassinations were also a characteristic of the wars and this is important for the background to the massacre. In 1563 Francis, Duke of Guise had been assassinated and the Protestant leadership, including Coligny, was held responsible, although nobody was prosecuted. On the 22 August 1572, as Coligny walked from the Louvre to his residence in Paris, he was shot at but only wounded. The Huguenot nobles were outraged and started threatening revenge for this act, which they blamed on the Guise (leaders of the Catholic faction at court). As there were Huguenot troops in the vicinity of Paris because of the gathering, this was seen to be a very real threat. Due to this situation and the attempted assassination, Paris became extremely tense.

On the evening before the massacre a meeting took place between the king and key Catholic members of his council. It was rumoured that there was a conspiracy by the Protestants to kidnap the king, which they had attempted on two previous occasions. A decision was taken to pre-empt any attack by the Huguenots by eliminating their leadership, namely Coligny and those around him. This preceded the more general massacre and the historical consensus now is that the crown only ever intended to remove the leadership and not to provoke a wide-scale slaughter.

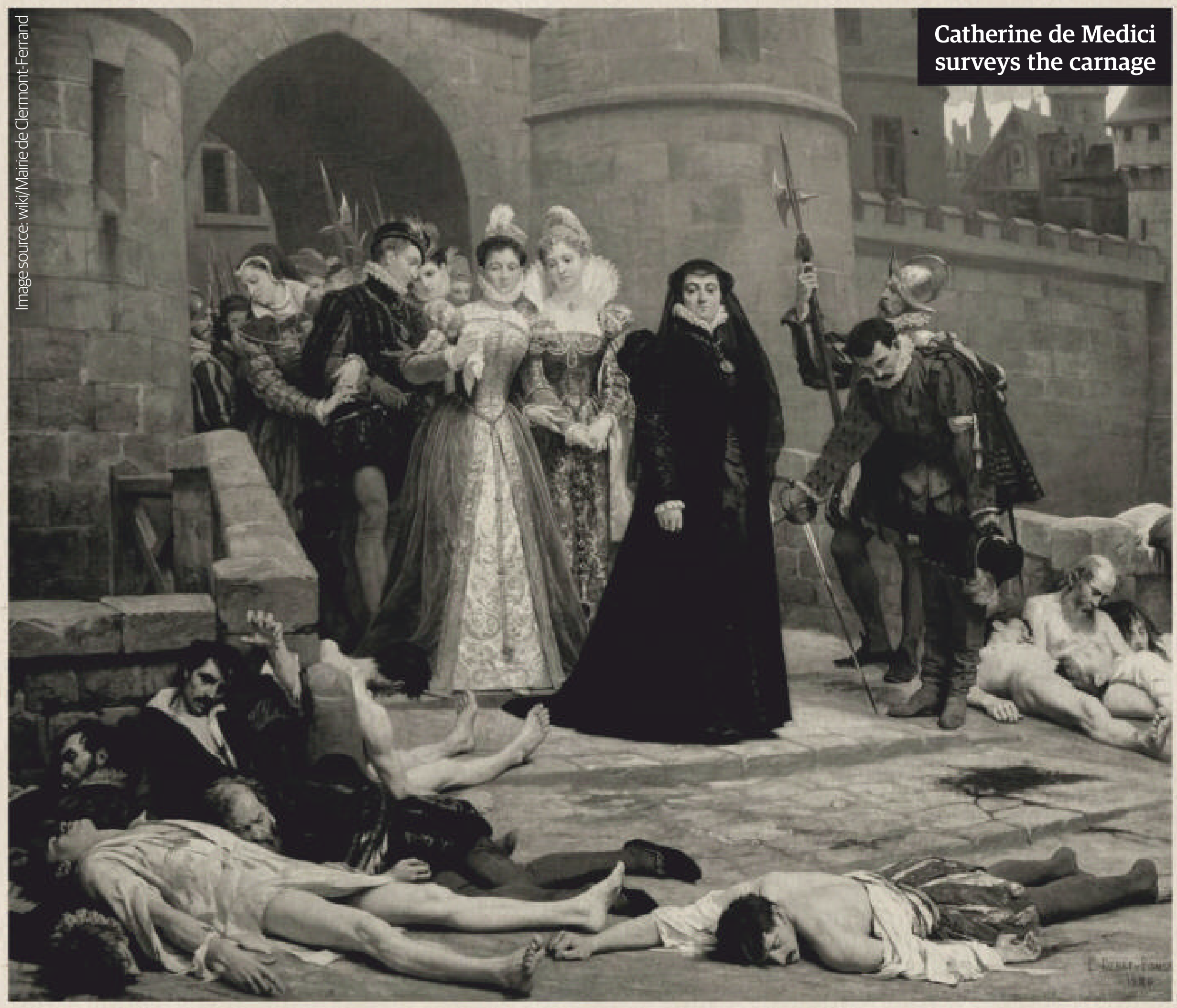

Catherine de Medici surveys the carnage

Image source: wiki/Marie de Clermont-Ferrand

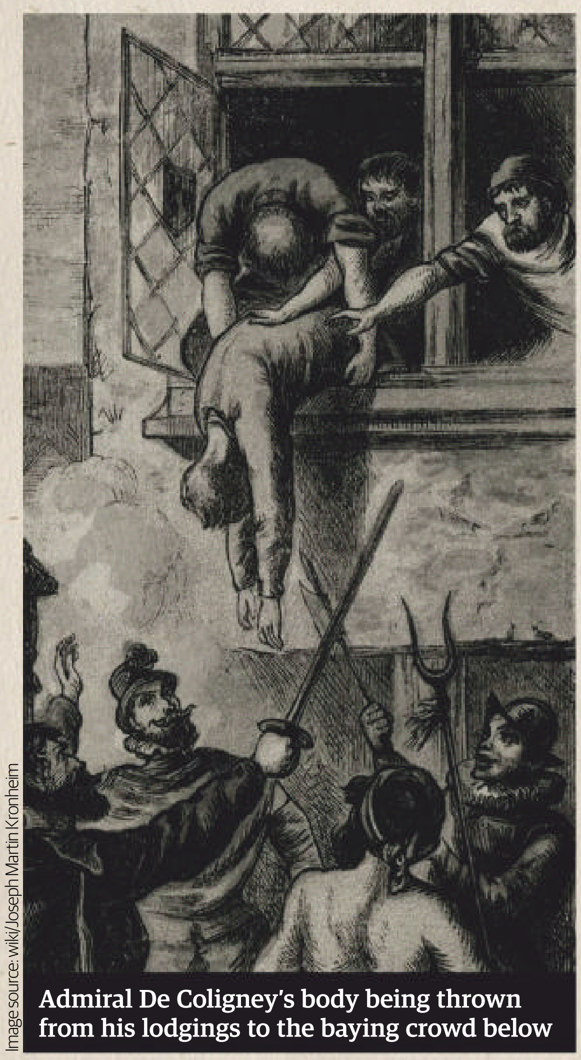

Admiral De Coligney's body being thrown from his lodgings to the baying crowd below

Image source: wiki/Joseph Martin Kronheim

### Who was behind the massacre and what were their motivations?

We do not know for sure who said what, but it seems to have been a collective decision. However, a black legend grew up among the Huguenots that the Queen Mother, Catherine de Medici, was primarily responsible. The king was young and Catherine was very much seen as the power behind the throne, but actually she had been the architect of the peace policy. She was a key figure, but what her motivations were is the real question. It is more likely that she was unhappy with the way that the Protestant leadership was undermining the crown's attempts to establish peace in the kingdom. The claim that she had been plotting the massacre for years does not make sense in terms of her wider strategy. The Guise family, of course, certainly wanted Coligny out of the way. They blamed him for the death of the duke and were almost certainly responsible for the first assassination attempt.

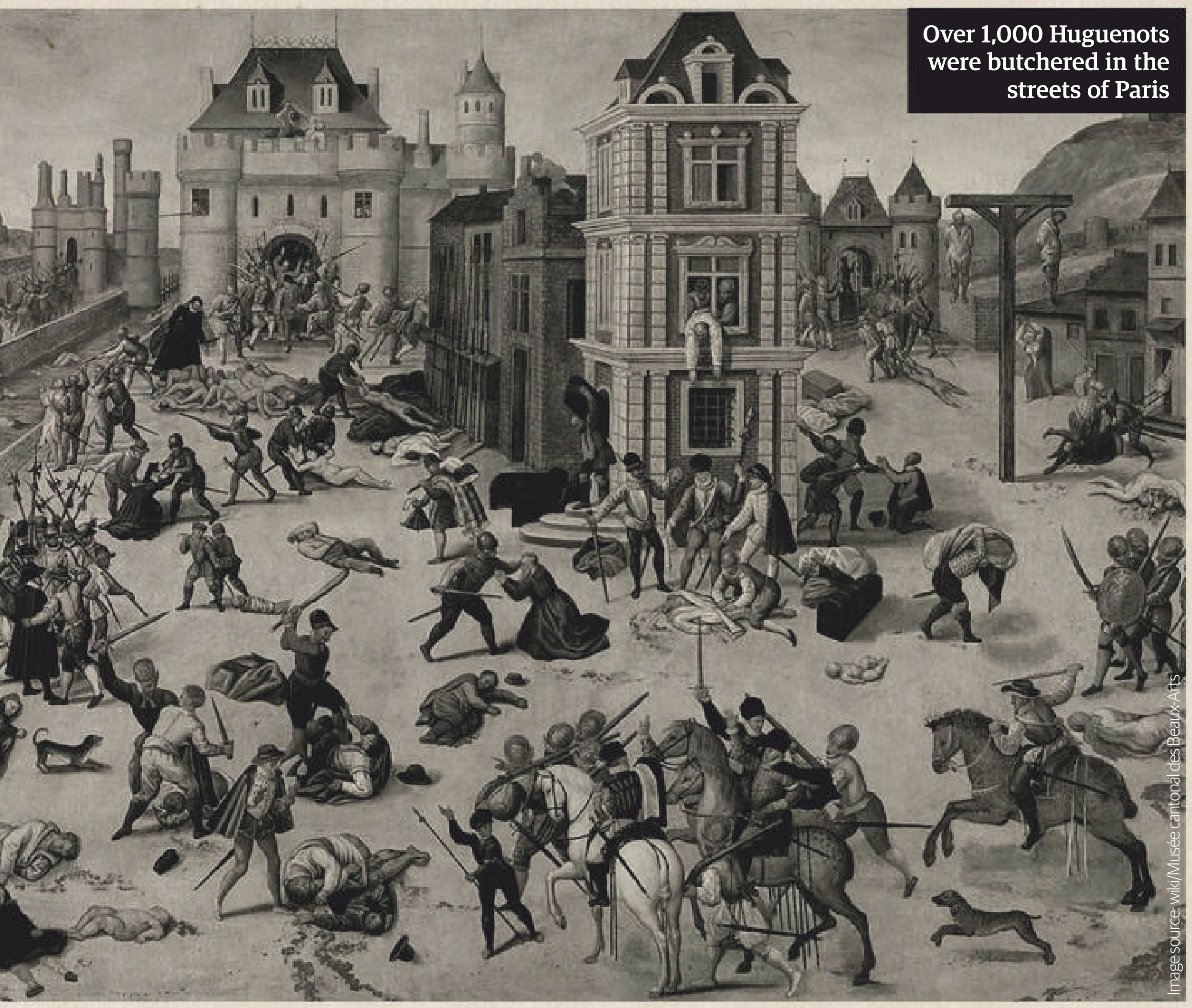
> "The Seine ran red with blood and bodies washed up further down the river"

### What happened on the day itself?

Following the meeting, the decision was taken to eliminate the Protestant leadership. Church bells tolled to warn people that the gates of Paris would be shut and to effectively mark this "moment". Coligny was murdered, his body thrown out of the window of his lodgings and mutilated, as happened to many corpses during the religious wars, such was their brutality. Rumours quickly spread about the killing and there was a widespread belief that it was "the king's will" that all the Protestants should be murdered.

Panic spread through the streets of Paris, in particular in the quarter where the Huguenots lived. They were dragged out of their houses and there was killing on the streets, some of which was ritualised, involving mutilation and throwing the bodies in the Seine. The water was said to have run red with blood and corpses washed up further down the river.

The violence lasted through the night and into the following days, and several thousand Protestants were killed. Some Huguenots managed to escape, but others were subsequently captured. The repercussions continued, with a couple of Coligny's close confidants judicially executed two months after the massacre and copycat killings in a number of other French towns.



Over 1,000 Huguenots were butchered in the streets of Paris

Image source: wiki/Musée cantonal des Beaux-Arts

**How might events in Paris have changed had Coligny been killed on the 22nd and the massacre ultimately not occurred?**

If the earlier assassination attempt had succeeded, there would probably not have been an order to kill the other Huguenot leaders and the more general massacre may not have occurred. However, considering how tense things already were in Paris, there might well have been a similar reaction and, therefore, a similar outcome, but it's hard to be sure.

Even if the St Bartholomew's Day Massacre had not taken place, tensions were such that it is very likely that war would have soon broken out again. Since so much of the context was already established, it did not have as radical an impact as it might have done. Nevertheless, the massacre was a watershed moment, particularly for its impact on the French Reform movement. An interesting question would be what if Henry of Navarre and Henry, Prince of Condé had not been spared? Being princes and closely related to the royal family, they were forced to convert to Catholicism instead. Henry of Navarre later became Henry IV of France, so if the princes had been killed in the massacre, there would likely not have been a Bourbon king at the end of the century, so who would have come to the French throne?

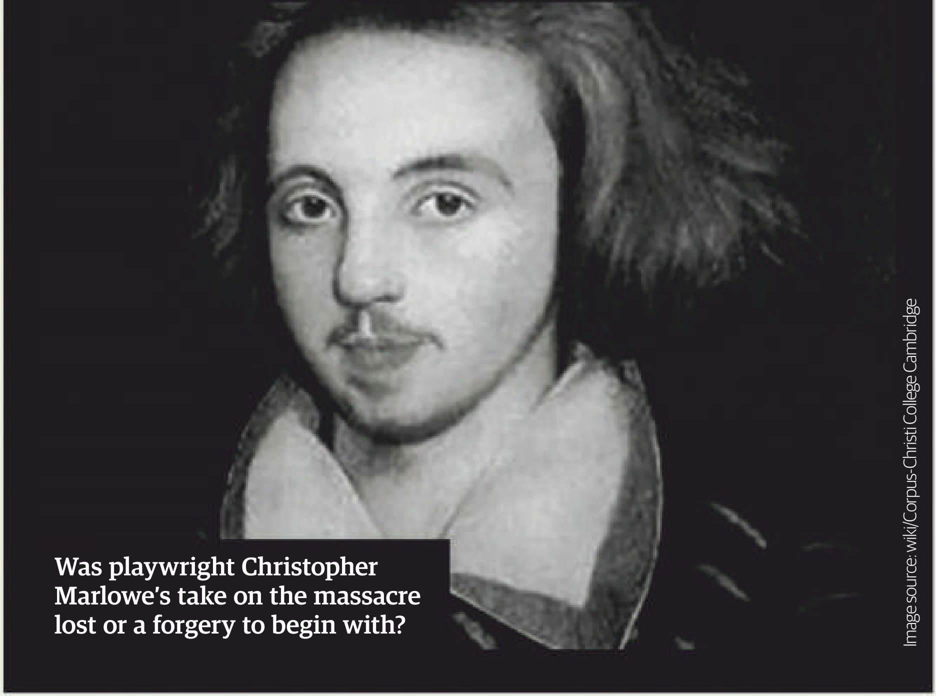
**What are the wider repercussions?**

The impact on the rest of Europe was significant because the St Bartholomew's Day Massacre was such a shocking and polarising moment. On the one side, the Papacy and Catholic states celebrated, but the English (who were negotiating a marriage between Elizabeth and one of the French princes) and other Protestants were absolutely horrified. Nevertheless, Anglo-French diplomatic relations were quickly restored.

For the Huguenots, the massacre forced them to question why God had 'abandoned' them. This exacerbated a kind of persecution mentality for a group that already strongly identified with the Old Testament Israelites, that 'suffering is part of our destiny'. The psychological impact of the massacre on the Huguenots was immeasurable: many converted or fled into exile. Geographically, they became concentrated in their strongholds in the south-west. The massacre was the last such violent episode of the wars. It was so shocking and was on such a scale that there were no further massacres, and the remainder of the wars were fought through siege warfare rather than popular violence. Nevertheless, the conflict between Catholics and Protestants in France would not be resolved until the end of the century and, even afterwards, continued to rumble on for decades to come.

## THE MASSACRE AND MARLOWE

In 1592 or 1593, Christopher Marlowe's play *The Massacre Of Paris* debuted. Marlowe's story focussed on the role of the Duke of Guise and is one of the first pieces of fiction to portray him and Catherine de Medici as Machiavellian plotters. Indeed, several contemporary works drew links between the St Bartholomew's Day Massacre and Machiavelli, stating that it was his works that had inspired the Catholics. Sadly, only a shortened version and a single page of the play survives. Some mystery surrounds the latter as its original owner, John Payne Collier, had been a notorious forger. However, despite his numerous other fakeries, modern scholars believe it to be genuine. Marlowe's play was extremely anti-Catholic and anti-French, and was performed only 20 years after the massacre. Historians believe that he had access to numerous Huguenot texts and may have possibly had interactions with refugees who had sheltered in his native Canterbury in England.



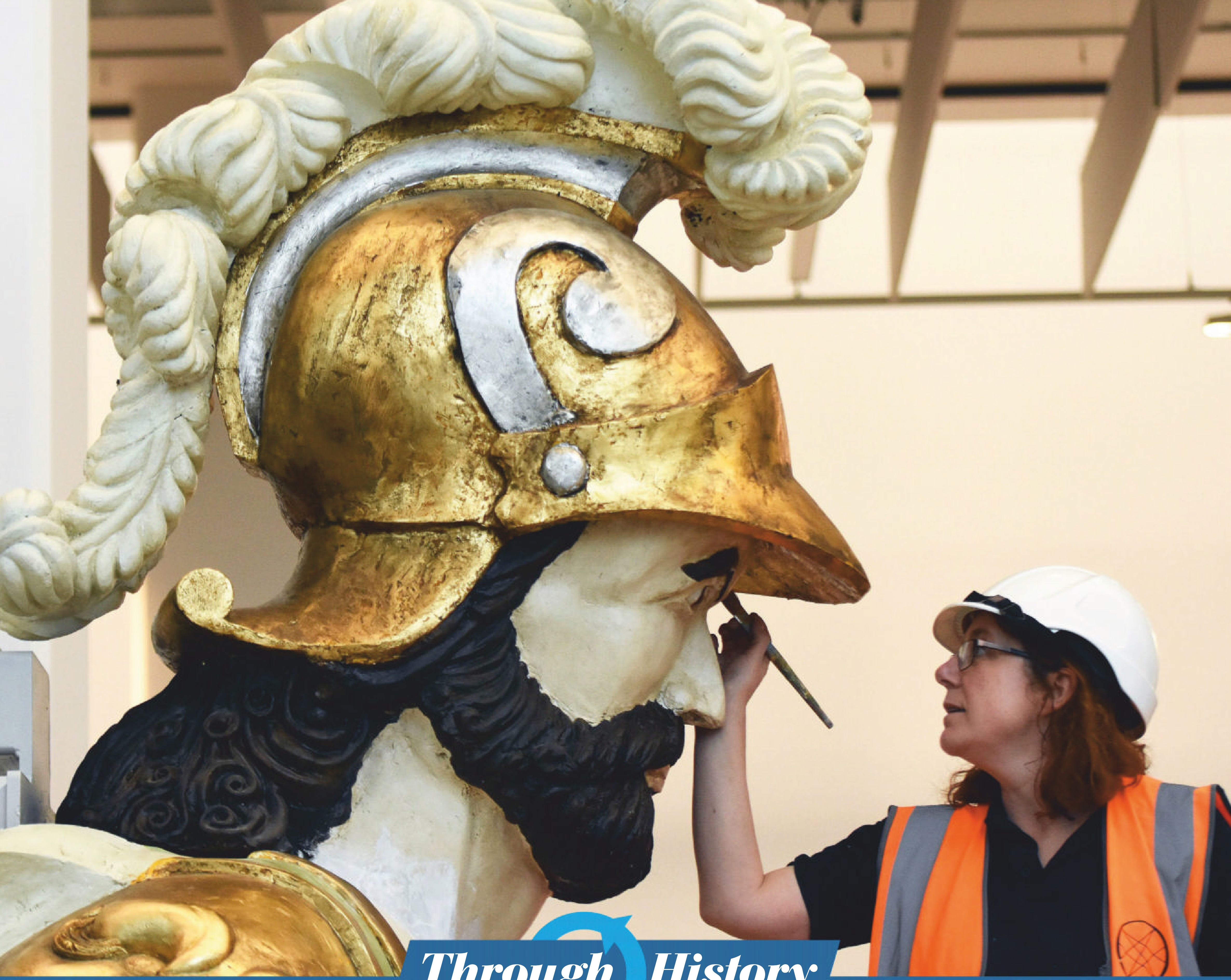
Was playwright Christopher Marlowe's take on the massacre lost or a forgery to begin with?

Image source: wiki/Corpus Christi College Cambridge

## COUNTING THE DEAD

© Getty Images

Estimates of the numbers killed in the massacre (and the various 'copy-cat' slaughters in the provinces) have varied from 2,000 to 70,000. Even now an exact figure is not known. The only suggested figure comes from a payment to city workmen for collecting 1,100 bodies washed up from the Seine.



Through History

# NAVAL FIGUREHEADS

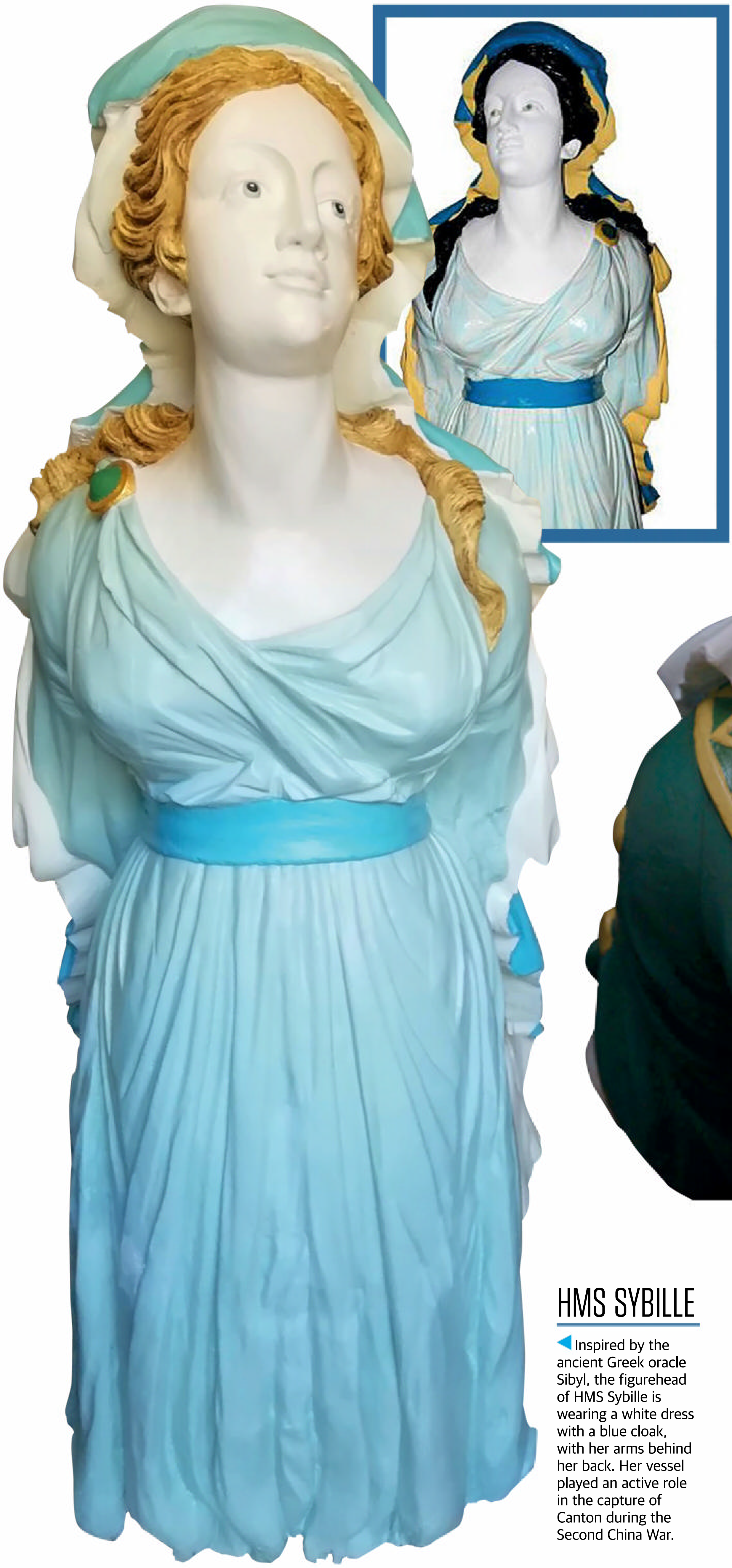
Feast your eyes on these icons of British maritime history, which have been painstakingly restored for a new exhibition in Plymouth

After two years of extensive restoration work, 14 magnificent 19th century naval figureheads have arrived at their new home at The Box museum, Plymouth, the UK's newest museum and the biggest arts and heritage centre in the south west of England. These wooden figureheads adorned the bows of naval warships, and thanks to the joint efforts of The Box and Plymouth City Council, they've been saved and restored to their former glory after years of water damage led to rot and decay.

Pioneering a new technique using sonic tomography scanning, conservation teams led by Orbis Conservation were able to assess the internal condition of the timber for each figurehead and restore them. The conservators also used cross paint analysis, alongside a set of 1912 full-colour cigarette cards featuring the navy's most famous figureheads, to faithfully replicate the original colour schemes for each figurehead.

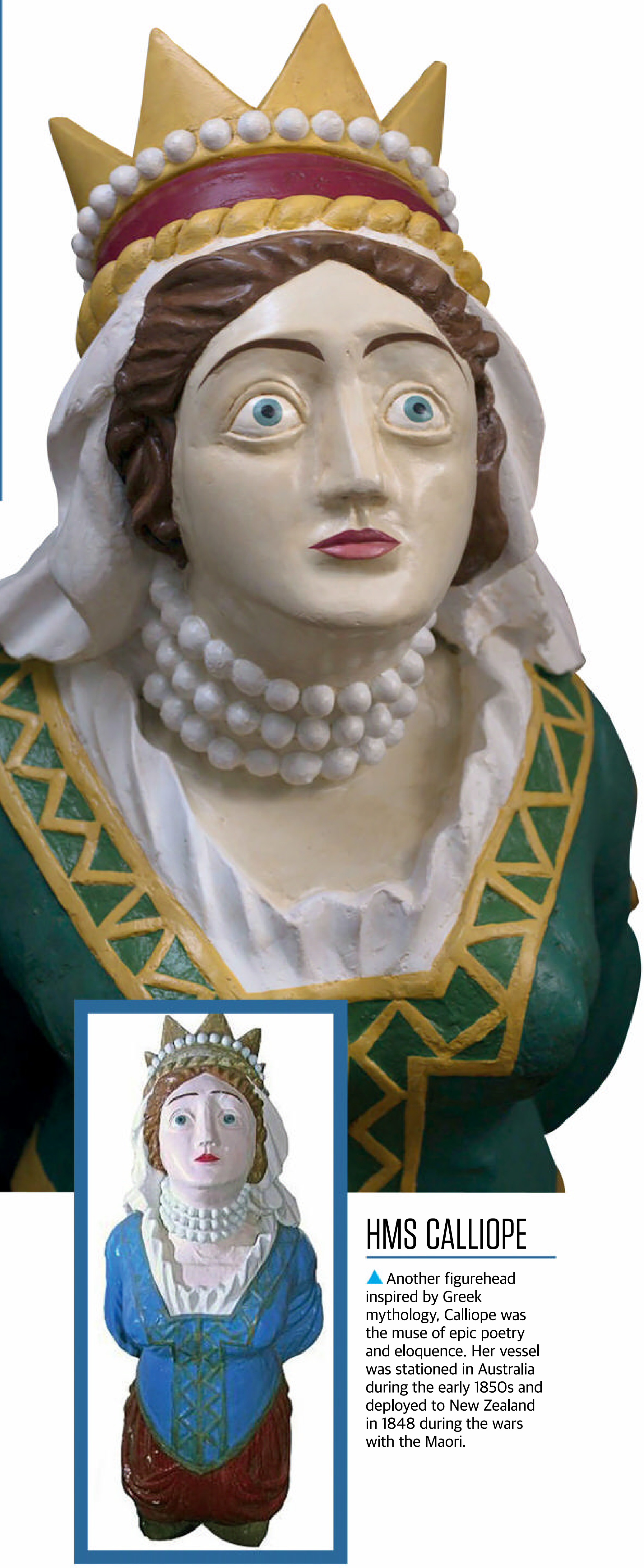
The conservation project is the most significant of its kind in a generation and the public will be able to see the result of their efforts at The Box from spring 2020, where the figureheads will feature in a unique display that will see them suspended from the ceiling within the glass atrium of the museum.

All images source: The Box Plymouth



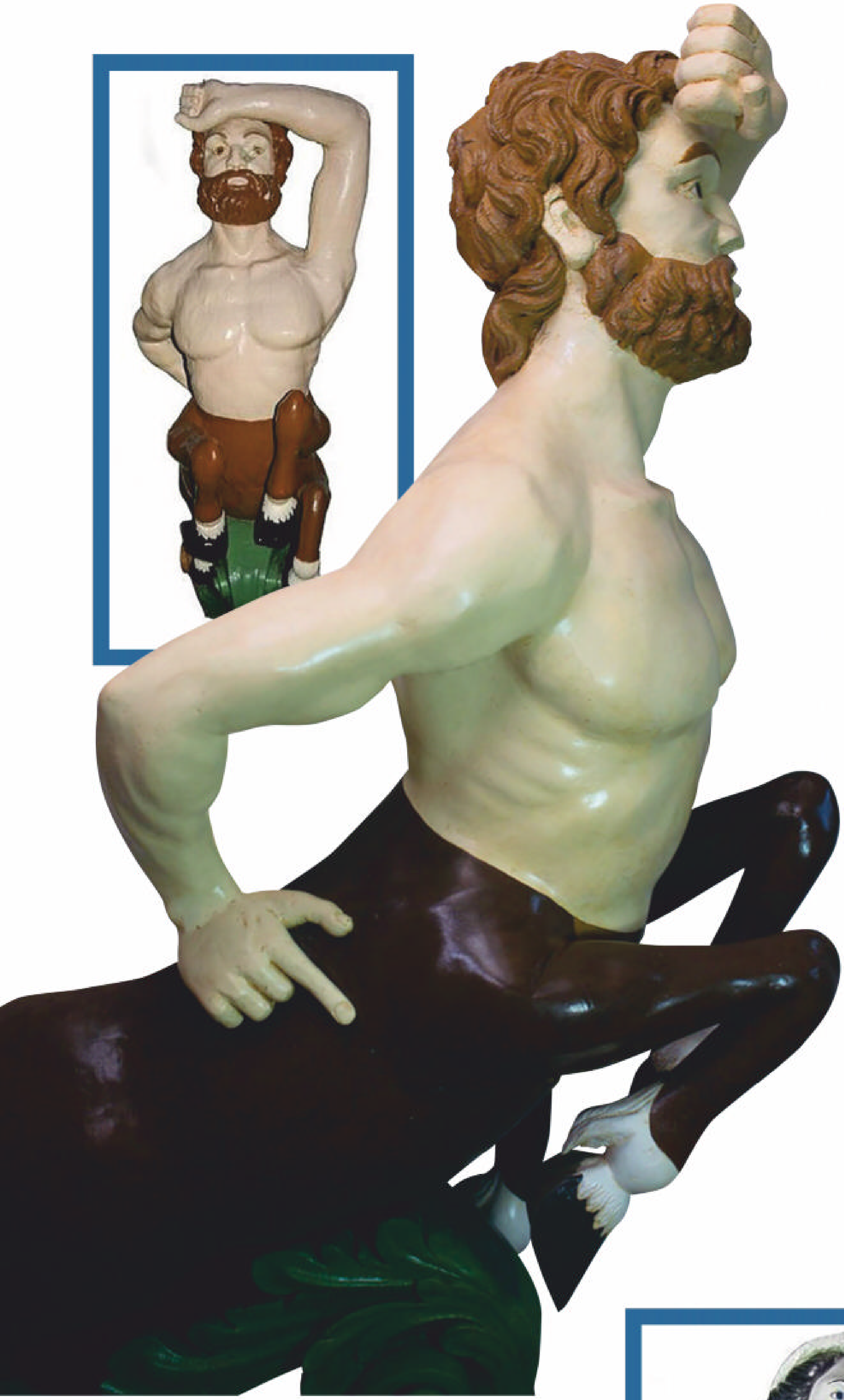
## HMS SYBILLE

◀ Inspired by the ancient Greek oracle Sibyl, the figurehead of HMS Sybille is wearing a white dress with a blue cloak, with her arms behind her back. Her vessel played an active role in the capture of Canton during the Second China War.



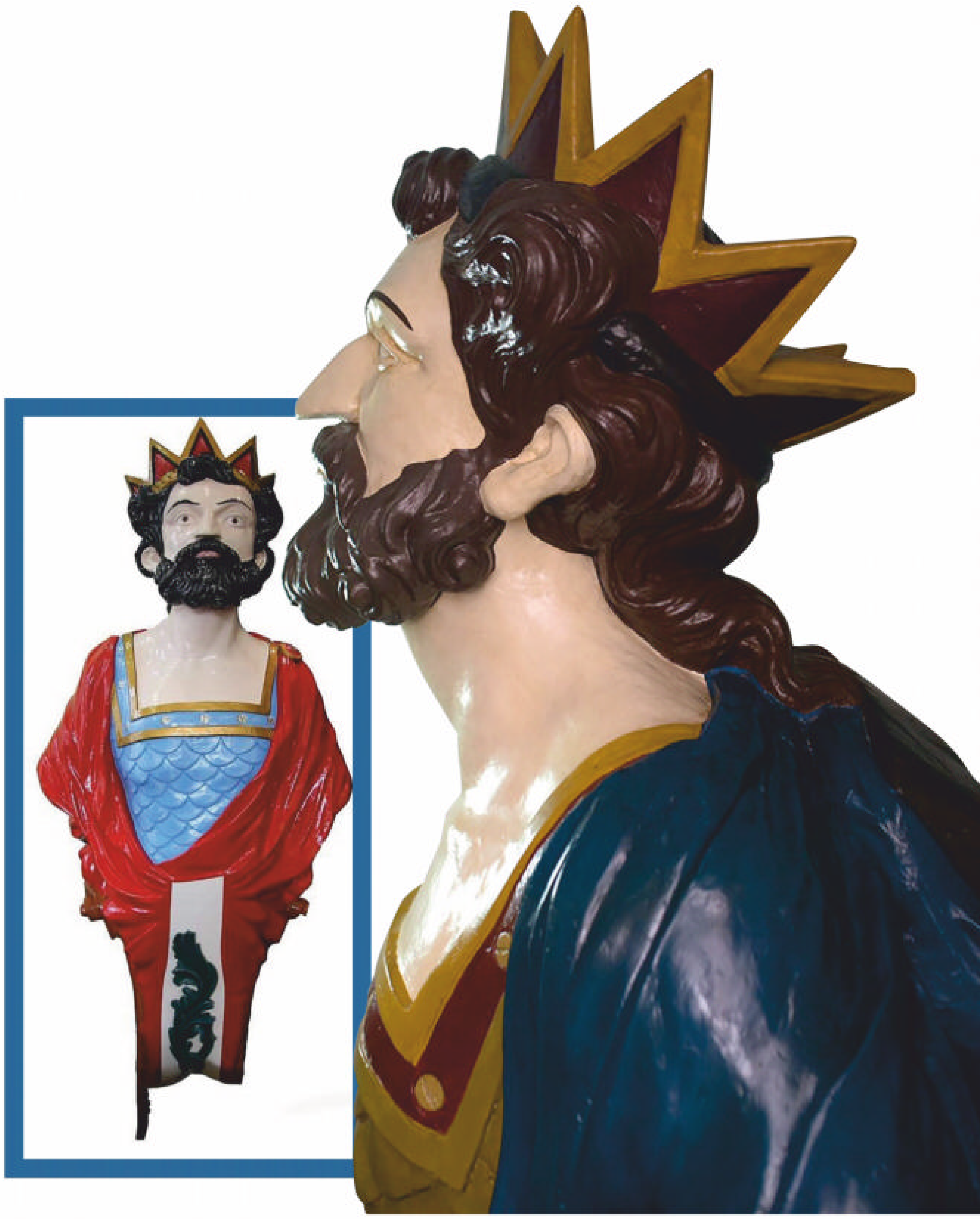
## HMS CALLIOPE

▲ Another figurehead inspired by Greek mythology, Calliope was the muse of epic poetry and eloquence. Her vessel was stationed in Australia during the early 1850s and deployed to New Zealand in 1848 during the wars with the Maori.



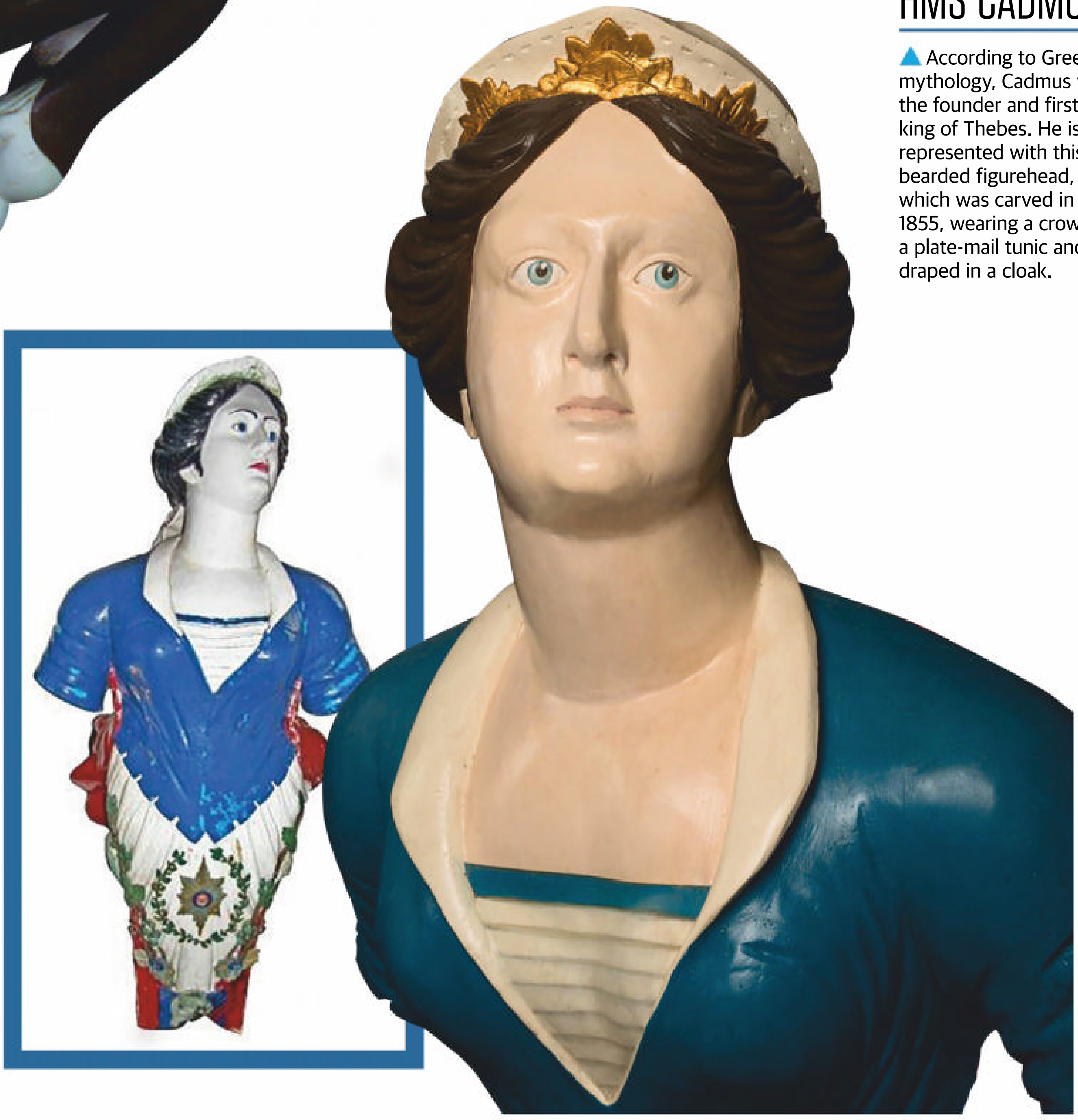
## HMS CENTAUR

As the name would suggest, the figurehead of the HMS Centaur depicts a full-length centaur. His vessel fought against pirates on the coast of West Africa and also served during the Crimea War in 1855.



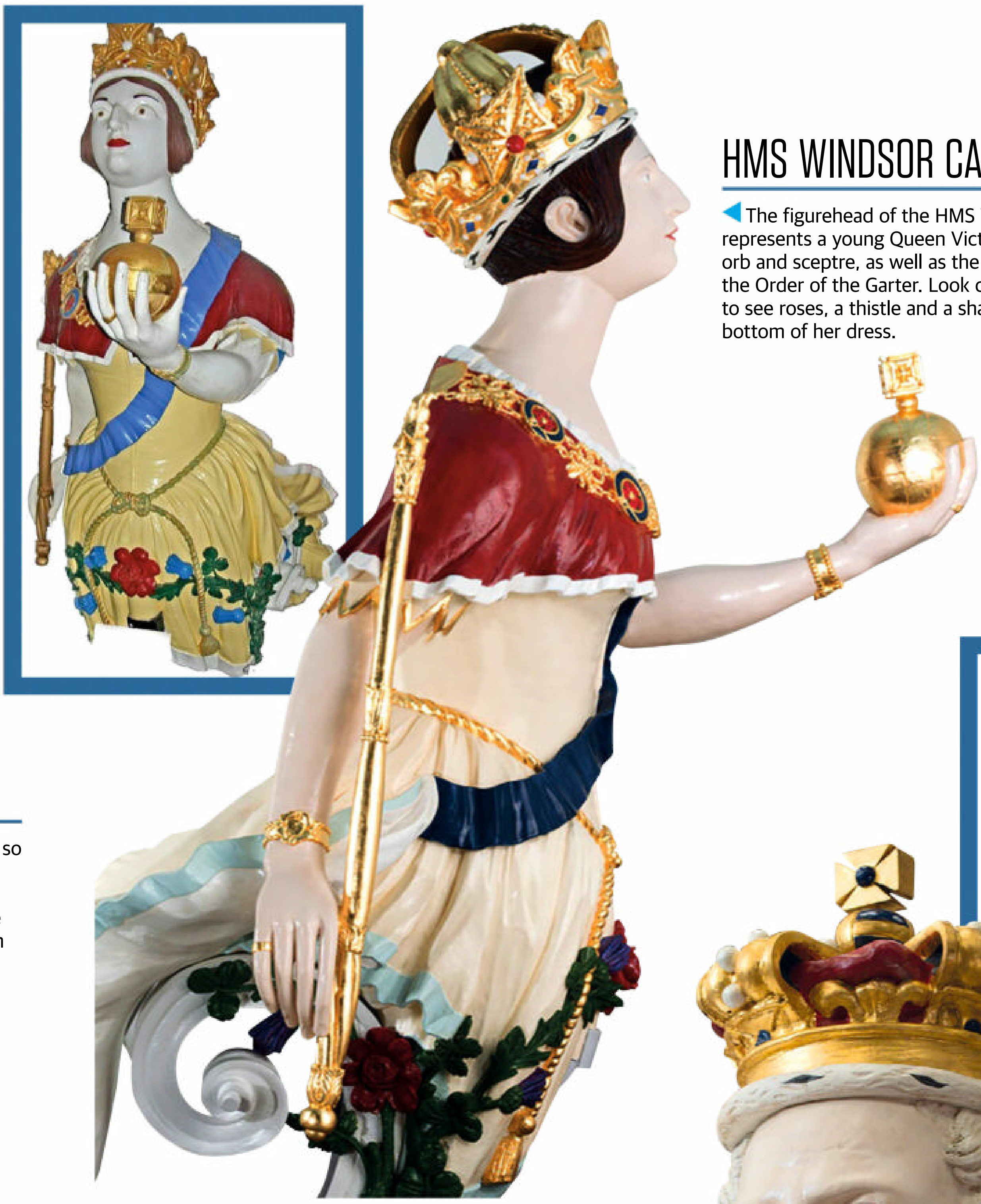
## HMS CADMUS

According to Greek mythology, Cadmus was the founder and first king of Thebes. He is represented with this bearded figurehead, which was carved in 1855, wearing a crown, a plate-mail tunic and draped in a cloak.



## HMS TOPAZE

The HMS Topaze figurehead is a three-quarter-length female bust that was carved in 1858. Despite being one of the most badly damaged of the figureheads, with rot throughout 90% of her structure, the team was able to fully restore her.

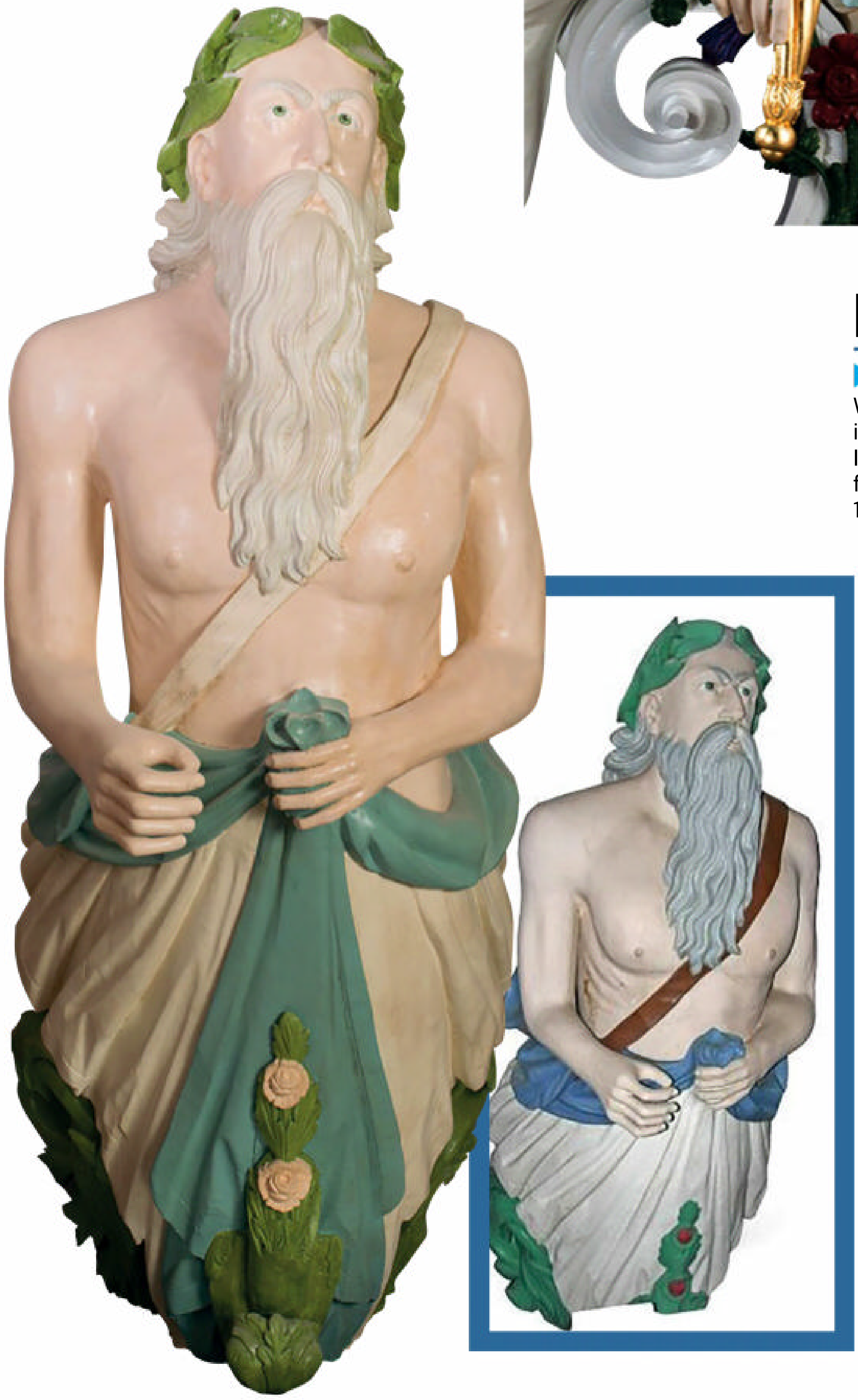


## HMS WINDSOR CASTLE

◀ The figurehead of the HMS Windsor Castle clearly represents a young Queen Victoria with her crown, orb and sceptre, as well as the bracelets and collar of the Order of the Garter. Look closely and you'll be able to see roses, a thistle and a shamrock carved at the bottom of her dress.

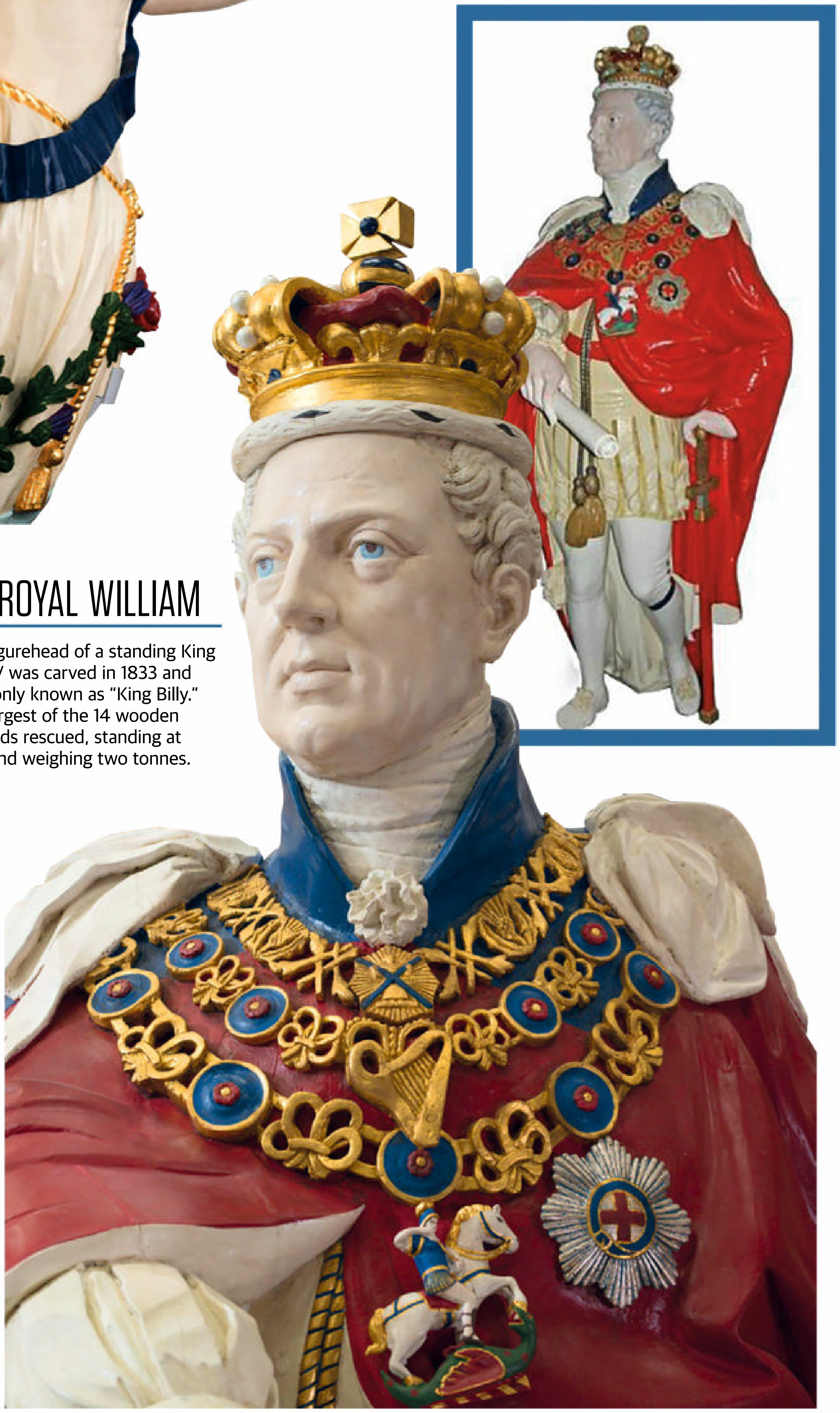
## HMS TAMAR

▼ The figurehead of HMS Tamar was so badly degraded that the conservation process to restore it took two years. It depicts a three-quarter-length male bearded river god with a laurel wreath on his head.



## HMS ROYAL WILLIAM

▶ This figurehead of a standing King William IV was carved in 1833 and is commonly known as "King Billy." It's the largest of the 14 wooden figureheads rescued, standing at 13ft tall and weighing two tonnes.



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# CARROT CAKE

**Did you know?**

A cartoon character named Dr Carrot was created to encourage children to eat their carrots during the war.

### Ingredients

- 170g flour
- 85g cooking fat, such as margarine
- 85g oatmeal
- 1 dried egg (reconstituted) or 1 fresh egg
- 3 tbsp raw grated carrot
- 1½ tbsp sugar
- 1 tbsp dried fruit
- 2 tsp syrup, such as golden or maple
- 1 tsp baking powder
- Water to mix

## A WARTIME STAPLE FROM THE KITCHEN FRONT, BRITAIN, 20TH CENTURY

Carrots have been used as a cheap substitute for sugar in puddings for centuries, but carrot desserts surged in popularity during World War II due to food rationing. They could be grown at home and were relatively cheap, so the Ministry of Food created propaganda campaigns to encourage people to eat them, claiming that vitamin A in carrots would help them to see during blackouts. The ministry even stated that eating carrots helped RAF fighter ace John 'Cat's Eyes' Cunningham with his night vision! Popular carrot-based recipes included jam, fudge, cakes, toffee, lemonade and carrots on sticks sold as a replacement for ice cream. The following recipe has been adapted from the second version of the ministry's *War Cookery Leaflet Number 4*, published in July 1943.

### METHOD

**01** Preheat your oven to 180°C. Sift the flour into a mixing bowl and add the cooking fat, rubbing it into the flour with your fingertips.

**02** Next, add the baking powder, sugar, oatmeal, dried fruit and carrot, and mix all of the ingredients together thoroughly.

**03** Add the syrup and reconstituted or fresh egg to the bowl and mix well. Slowly stir some water into the mixture until it forms a fairly stiff consistency.

**04** Lightly grease a cake tin and pour in the cake mixture. Smooth over the surface and then place the cake in the oven to bake for an hour.

**05** Once the cake has risen and is golden in colour, remove it from the oven and insert a skewer into the centre – if it comes out clean, the cake is done.

**06** Set aside to cool in the tin for a few minutes and then remove the cake, placing it on a wire rack to cool. If you want to, feel free to add cream cheese icing on top, although rationing made this unlikely during the war.

© Alamy

# REVIEWS

The books, TV shows and films causing a stir in the history world this month

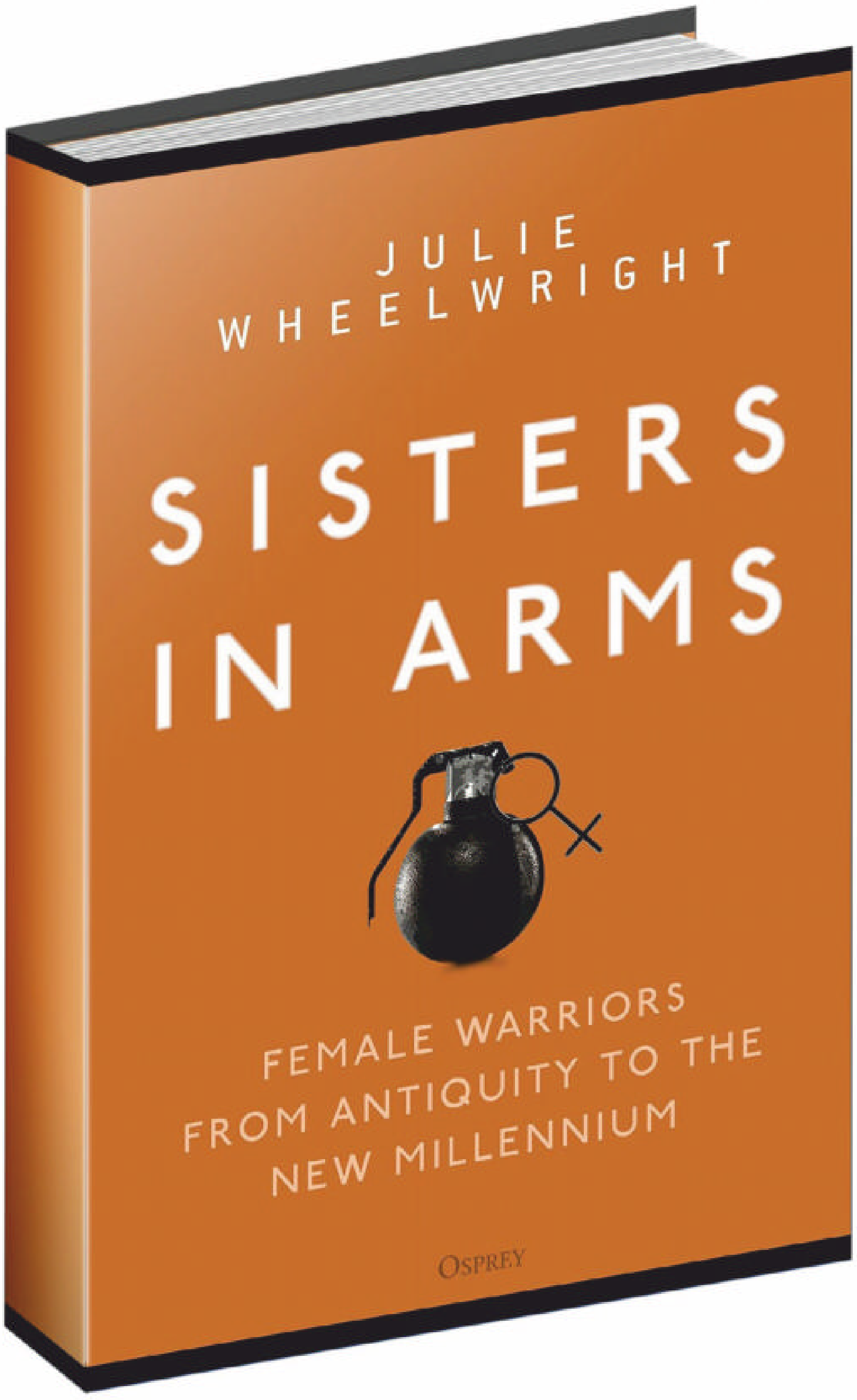
Book Film TV Podcast Games Other

***Reviews by***
Martyn Conterio, Catherine Curzon, Beth Wyatt, Mallory James, David Smith

# SISTERS IN ARMS

## An introduction to female warriors through the ages

**Author** Julie Wheelwright **Publisher** Osprey **Price** £18.99 **Released** Out now



> "A fascinating study into an often neglected area of military history"

In *Sisters In Arms*, Julie Wheelwright brings to life extraordinary female warriors from centuries past in a lively and well-researched narrative that brings the story of women in combat right up to the present day. Though the subtitle of the book is *Female Warriors From Antiquity To The New Millennium*, this is understandably far from an exhaustive account.

The book opens with a recounting and analysis of the Scythian women who were the founders of the Amazon myth, before moving on to the early modern era. From that point on, it's a fairly linear journey through the changing roles of women in combat. There are some well-known names here and some who are far from famous, and Wheelwright brings the women she focuses on vividly back to life. There are, of course, some eye-opening tales here, from women who concealed their gender and went into battle disguised as men to those who were at the forefront of change in the armed forces and beyond.

Wheelwright's book seeks to examine the ways in which the female experience of war differs from that of men. In doing so, she examines and contextualises the shifting place of women in combat, from good-luck mascots to symbols of almost courtly devotion and figures of trailblazing defiance. She peels back these layers to tease out the stories of the real women who were often lost and forgotten among such mythologising.

*Sisters In Arms* is clearly the product of a vast amount of research, and Wheelwright ably balances historical context and detail with readability. She creates evocative stories in which the women at their heart emerge as vividly real. Wheelwright's respect for her subjects is clear, but she remains subjective in even the most awe-inspiring cases. The book is well organised and particularly enlightening when examining cases of women who passed as men in order to serve, from the methods they employed to the punishments they faced for discovery and their often fascinating lives after they had left the forces.

While *Sisters In Arms* is a fascinating and highly readable introduction to the subject, it isn't a comprehensive take on the history of female warriors. Though the book opens with the Amazon myths, there are very few other ancient female warrior figures included and this does feel like a missed opportunity. In fact, the vast majority of the narrative covers the early modern period to the 21st century, and the geographical focus is rather narrow too. This is a vast subject, of course, and there is an extensive bibliography for those readers who would like to dive deeper and find out more about a particular name or era.

*Sisters In Arms* is a timely and fascinating study into an often neglected area of military history. Though by no means exhaustive, it serves as a highly readable introduction and an excellent starting point for readers who would like to know more about the extraordinary and often neglected women who have fought alongside their male counterparts through the centuries. ***CC***

★★★★☆

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**HISTORY OF WAR RECOMMENDS...**

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### To VE-Day Through German Eyes

**Author** Jonathan Trigg **Price** £20 **Publisher** Amberley Publishing

The book makes use of intelligence reports, which revealed the incredible fact that German morale remained high in many units through the autumn of 1944, when the game appeared to be up. Confidence in a German victory also remained robust, even as France was liberated.

Jonathan Trigg brings the story to vivid life with telling interjections from a huge variety of sources, weaving a compelling narrative that is as readable as it is enlightening.

# ANCIENT EGYPTIAN MAGIC

## A highly entertaining primer on everyday Egyptian magic

**Author** Christina Riggs **Publisher** Thames & Hudson **Price** £14.95 **Released** Out now

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN MAGIC
A HANDS-ON GUIDE
CHRISTINA RIGGS
Thames & Hudson

If you have ever fancied soaring through the skies, searched for a magical amulet to keep demons from their door, or even hankered for a sightseeing trip to the land of the dead, then this is definitely the book for you.

*Ancient Egyptian Magic: A Hands-On Guide* by Christina Riggs examines how magic was a part of everyday life for the ancient Egyptians. As well as sharing some key magical rites and secrets, the book places such material in its historical context, where it was simply another facet of a world that was governed by cosmic forces.

What emerges particularly clearly in this book is that much of what the ancient Egyptians believed to be magic can now be recognised as early medicine. That's not to say that there wasn't plenty of sorcery too, and Riggs does an excellent job of introducing readers not only to the magical spells, potions and beliefs, but to the colourful sorcerers, priests and wise people who practised them.

Opening with a fascinating trip to a magician's tomb and closing with a thought-provoking examination of the often murky intersection between science and superstition, *Ancient Egyptian Magic* is a wonderful introduction to this fascinating subject.

This is a highly accessible and entertaining read that will appeal to casual readers as well as those with a more serious interest in the subjects it covers. Though Christina Riggs writes with light humour, the book is rich in detail and thoroughly researched, and it also features a list of suggested books for those who want to delve deeper into the mysterious world of ancient Egyptian magic. This excellent little book is sure to cast a spell on readers. ***CC***

★★★★★

# IRELAND'S FORGOTTEN PAST

## A witty, pacy narrative exploring fascinating tales of Irish history

**Author** Turtle Bunbury **Publisher** Thames & Hudson **Price** £14.95 **Released** Out now

TURTLE BUNBURY
IRELAND'S FORGOTTEN PAST
A HISTORY OF THE OVERLOOKED & DISREMEMBERED
Thames & Hudson

Snapshots of Ireland's history evoking its cultural and societal transformations through the centuries leap engagingly from the pages of this compact but lively read.

Our guide is historian Turtle Bunbury, who weaves an entertaining narrative of dramatic, eccentric and everyday events of the past in the form of 36 short chapters, each relaying a tale the author has identified as overlooked or disremembered.

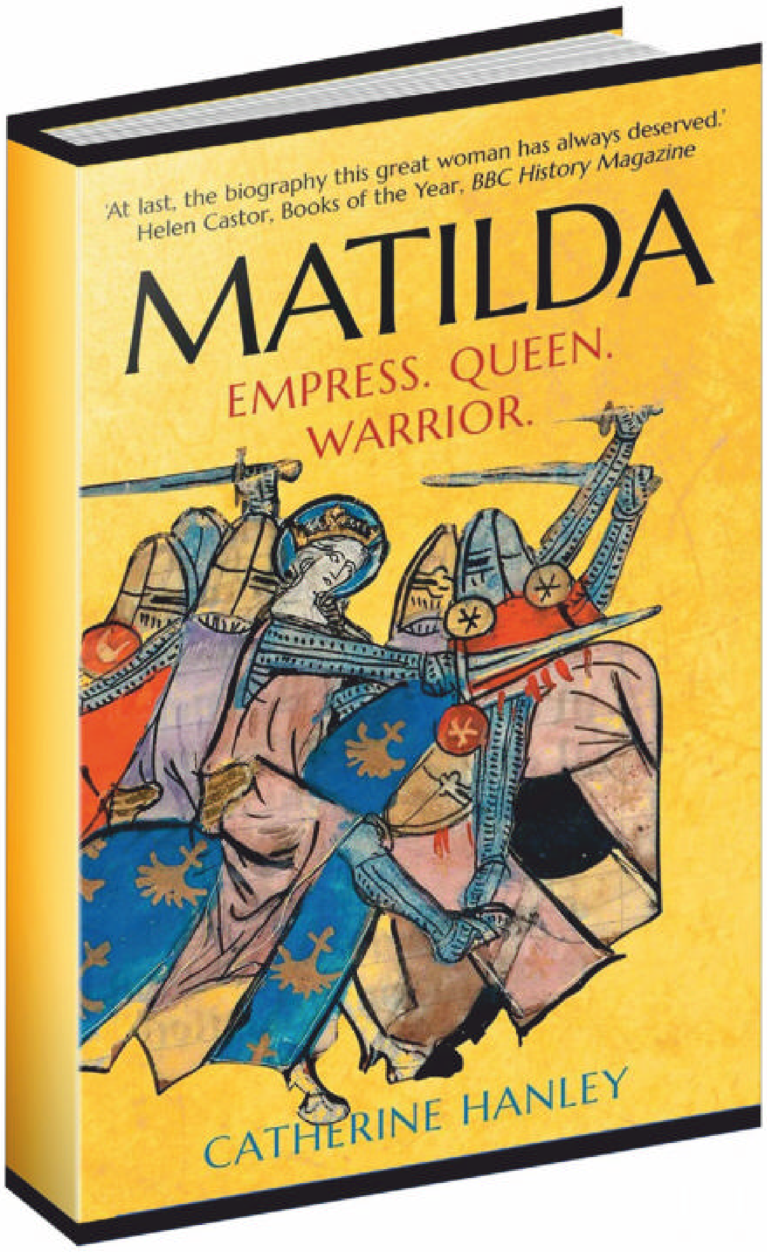
Opening in the prehistory era, the book nimbly moves through the medieval, early modern and modern periods, concluding with the immediate post-war years. Bunbury is assisted by an enjoyable cast of historical characters ranging from pagan deities, warring medieval clans and ambitious noblewomen to quacks, spy-masters and military leaders.

Intriguing events chronicled include the involvement of Irish noble families in the Wars Of The Roses, and the post-war Irish Red Cross initiative Operation Shamrock, which brought over 400 German children to Ireland, many of whom were orphans whose parents had been killed during the Second World War.

Yet this story is as much about place as people. It effectively evokes the mystery and memory embedded within these landscapes, with the chapters exploring the wonders of prehistoric megaliths and barrows, once formidable castles long since transformed into romantic ruins reclaimed by nature, and holy wells which in times past attracted thousands of pilgrims.

Bunbury says in his introduction that "every field, hill, stream and rock seems to hold another secret about the island's past", and the sense of the power and beauty of nature resonates as strongly as the varied tales he so enjoyably explores. ***BW***

★★★★★


'At last, the biography this great woman has always deserved.'
Helen Castor, Books of the Year, BBC History Magazine
MATILDA
EMPRESS. QUEEN. WARRIOR.
CATHERINE HANLEY

# MATILDA: EMPRESS. QUEEN. WARRIOR.

## A vivid biography of a remarkable and resolute woman

**Author** Catherine Hanley **Publisher** Yale University Press
**Price** £10.99 (Paperback) **Released** Out now

Duty, defiance and disaster seep through the pages in this compelling account of Matilda's remarkable life.

When the White Ship sank as it set out to cross the English Channel in 1120 her brother was among the 300 or so people who lost their lives, and Matilda was left as the only legitimate child of her father, King Henry I. Oaths were sworn to recognise her as his heir, unless he had another legitimate son. But when Henry died in 1135, the crown was taken by her cousin Stephen.

Without Matilda's campaign to get it back, first for herself then her son, there would have been no Plantagenets. And thus no Tudors and no Stuarts. It was her son, King Henry II, who eventually sat on the throne. Through him, every subsequent monarch of England and Britain can trace their lineage back to Matilda.

In this biography, Matilda's story is meticulously situated in its historical context. From the dangers of childbirth to descriptions of the armour and weaponry used in battle, *Matilda: Empress. Queen. Warrior.* offers a fascinating insight into the world of the 12th century. In addition to this, Catherine Hanley deftly considers gender in her analysis and interpretation. For example, she demonstrates how it influenced contemporary chroniclers, and how notable it was that Matilda claimed the throne in her own right.

This careful and nuanced volume makes for thought-provoking reading. It is both extensive and engaging, and should appeal to any readers with an interest in medieval or royal history. ***MJ***

★★★★★

# VINTAGE ROGER: LETTERS FROM THE POW YEARS

## Inside the quirky mind of a captured British officer

**Author** Charlie Mortimer **Publisher** Constable
**Price** £16.99 **Released** Out now

Roger Mortimer's life in the Coldstream Guards was a comfortable and predictable one, until he was taken prisoner while serving with the British Expeditionary Force in 1940. Spending the rest of the war as a POW would tax his easygoing nature and wry sense of humour, but this collection of letters, edited by his son, Charles, reveals an extraordinarily strong character.

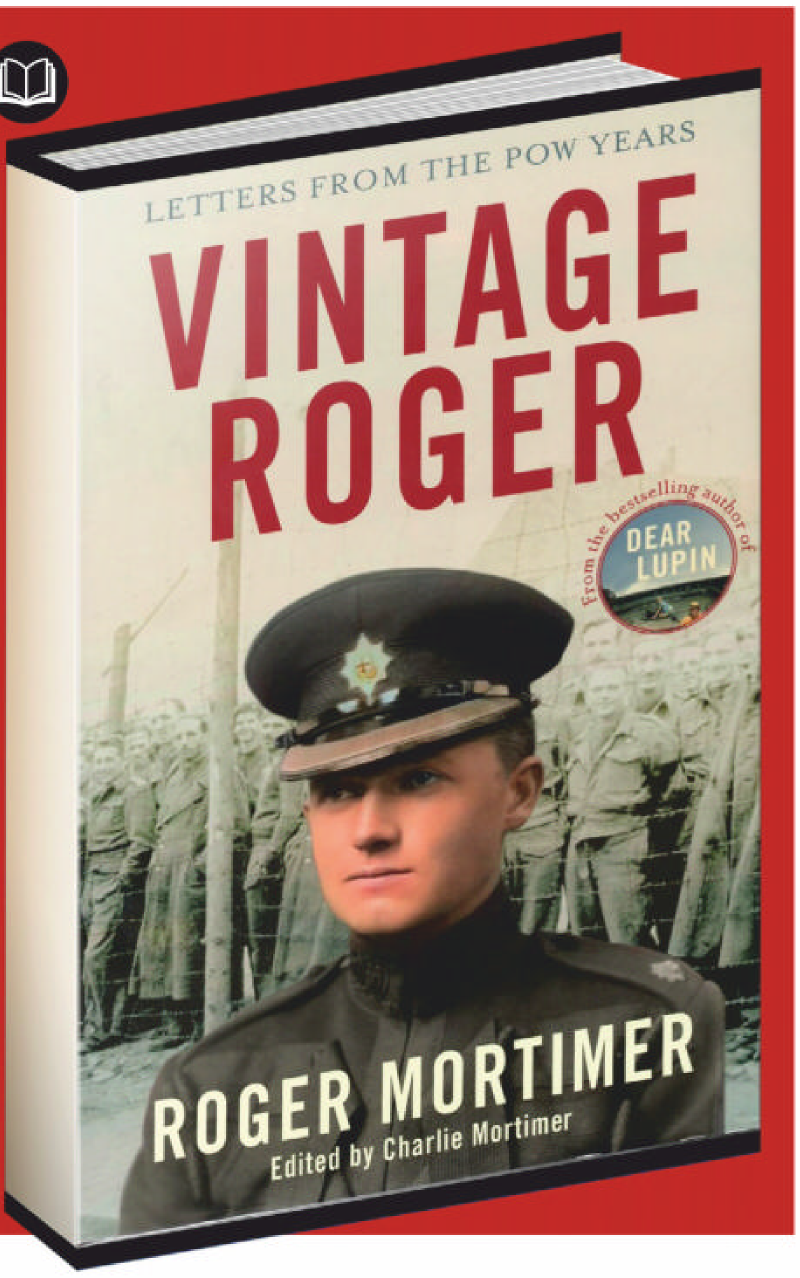
Life as a POW could be stultifyingly dull, and letters received from home, along with whatever people chose to send out, were lifelines. For this reason, he treasured the letters received from his friend Peggy Dunne, who wrote regularly and entertainingly to whatever camp Mortimer was being held in. She also sent books, which he was delighted to discuss with her.

The intimacy of the letters is sometimes surprising. Despite admitting in one early letter that he was a "comparative stranger" to Peggy, he went on to describe a visit to a brothel, although it appears to have been more farcical than lascivious.

Always self-deprecating (he describes his tastes as "distinctly lowbrow", going on to claim that "it is difficult to tell where my hair stops and my eyebrows begin") it is nevertheless clear that he is incredibly grateful for the distraction that Peggy's letters offer. From one camp he writes: "I've had five letters from you today so I am counter-attacking with two letters and a postcard."

Revealing, poignant and at times extremely moving, Mortimer's letters are always entertaining and give the reader a valuable insight into the experiences of a World War II POW. ***DS***

★★★☆☆


LETTERS FROM THE POW YEARS
VINTAGE ROGER
From the bestselling author of
DEAR LUPIN
ROGER MORTIMER
Edited by Charlie Mortimer

A REBEL IN HER ELEMENT
RADIOACTIVE
IN CINEMAS MARCH 20

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# RADIOACTIVE

Marie Curie's life and work is put under the microscope

**Certificate** 12A **Director** Marjane Satrapi **Cast** Rosamund Pike, Sam Riley, Anya Taylor-Joy **Released:** Out now

The consequences of breakthrough and discovery are imaginatively presented by French-Iranian director Marjane Satrapi in her biopic of pioneering scientist and two-time Nobel Prize winner, Marie Skłodowska Curie (1867-1934). This movie is far from a typically staid British melodrama: the former graphic novelist-turned-filmmaker presents history with dreamy flow to it, with passages interrupting the narrative structure. We're whisked off a New Mexico desert as a nuclear bomb is about to drop, a 1950s Ohio hospital where a young boy is undergoing chemotherapy, and 1986 Chernobyl in the midst of the disaster. In these vividly staged moments, Curie appears as somebody experiencing seer-like visions. The overall effect livens up what could have been a bog-standard story set exclusively in laboratories and stuffy parlour rooms, with eggheads delivering complicated dialogue. Satrapi's aesthetic experimentation and Jack Thorne's screenplay avoid the pitfalls that can make historical dramas deathly dull.

As well as cinematographer Anthony Dod Mantle's vibrant use of light, which glows like radium, Satrapi is aided by an imperious performance from Rosamund Pike, who plays Curie. She's the kind of actor able to communicate what's on her mind with a subtle look, and she skilfully shows how intrinsically linked Curie's romantic life was with her extraordinary achievements in science. These achievements shaped the 20th century, ushered in the Atomic Age and helped ground-breaking medical technology (X-ray machines) become more accurate. We quickly understand what makes her tick. She's driven by the pursuit of knowledge, is consistently annoyed at having to prove her genius to those intellectually beneath her, and is frustrated by jealous establishment types trying to thwart her ambition.

> "A complex, richly detailed biography of Marie Curie"

Curie was deeply in love with French husband Pierre (Sam Riley) and their partnership was intrinsic to their shared success. In time, radioacitivity became the family business, as their daughter, Irène (Anya Taylor-Joy), picked up a Nobel Prize in chemistry for her work on artificial radioactivity. Crucially, Marie and Pierre's competitive natures spurred each other on. "You've got a fine mind," she tells her hubby, before adding, "But mine is finer."

Of course, it wasn't always picnics in the park and high-fives in the lab. When Pierre travels alone to Stockholm to pick up their joint Nobel Prize, he fails to mention his wife during the winner's speech. Curie also experiences staggering amounts of sexism from university boards, who believe science is no place for a woman. Even Pierre isn't above being patronising when they first meet. "I read your paper. It contained some excellent science," he admits, without needing to add "for a woman".

In taking a fresh and unexpected route into celebrated lives and history, Satrapi has made a complex, richly detailed biography informed more by the conventions of graphic novels than history books. ***MC***

★★★★☆

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# HISTORY VS HOLLYWOOD

## Fact versus fiction on the silver screen

# FIRST MAN

**Director:** Damien Chazelle **Starring:** Ryan Gosling, Claire Foy, Jason Clarke **Country:** USA **Released:** 2018

A rare period film that seems driven by its pursuit of accuracy

A

**VERDICT** Plays it close to the record, apart from the odd emotional beat

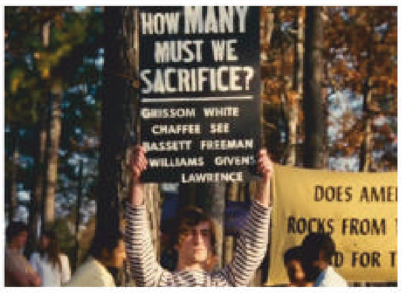
**01** The film opens with Neil Armstrong's X-15 crash before he joined NASA. The craft begins bouncing on the atmosphere, unable to descend, and he uses thrusters to return to Earth. The only possible inaccuracy is the clouds, which wouldn't form at that altitude.

**02** The film appears to attribute some of Armstrong's stoicism to the death of his daughter Karen from brain cancer. How this affected his outlook is unclear, but the Armstrongs did lose her in 1962 and some colleagues later said they didn't even know he had a daughter.

**03** *First Man* depicts protests against the Apollo programme, with many people bemoaning the expense and loss of life. These are all genuine debates from the era and the programme only really gained popularity around the time of Apollo 11.

**04** There are a couple of small inaccuracies in the Moon landing. It has an audio warning as the landing module approaches the surface, but in truth it was just alarms. And it suggests they only had seconds to spare in their landing, but they had a little time.

**05** Armstrong leaves a bracelet with his daughter's name on the Moon, but there's no evidence this happened. That said, he was off comms for ten minutes and later claimed his log of personal items for the mission was lost, despite being fastidious about keeping documents.



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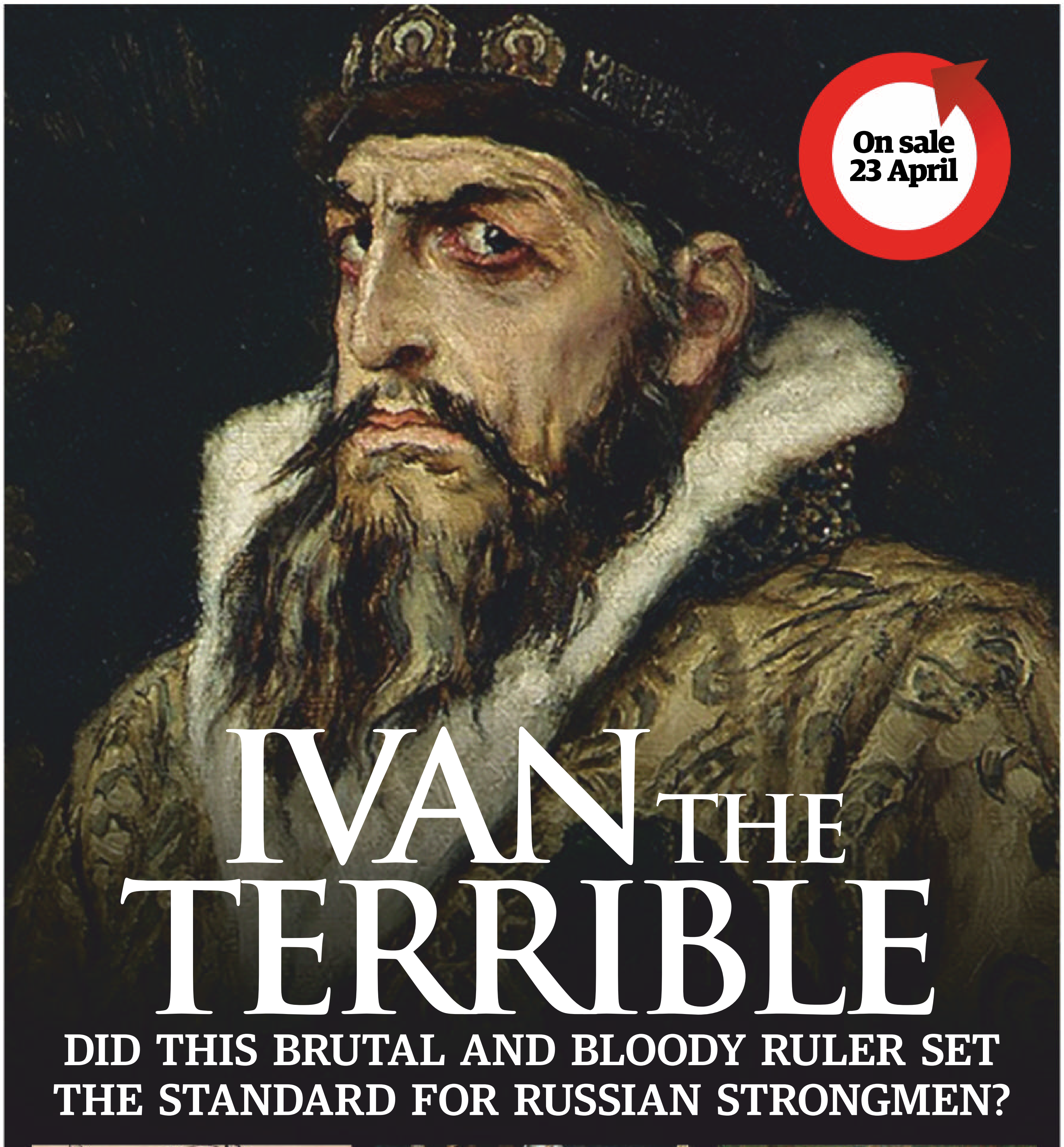

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# IVAN THE TERRIBLE

## DID THIS BRUTAL AND BLOODY RULER SET THE STANDARD FOR RUSSIAN STRONGMEN?

Main image source: wiki/Tretyakov Gallery

LE GRAND GUIGNOL

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Inside the depraved playhouse of Paris

Image source: wiki/Gallica

### DARK SIDE OF THE RENAISSANCE

How did wars, disease and famine impact the movement?

Image source: wiki/Museum of Fine Arts of Lyon

### VIKING BATTLE ANGELS

Revealing the true story of the mythic Valkyries

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**Printed by** Wyndeham Peterborough, Storey's Bar Road, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE1 5YS

**Distributed by** Marketforce, 5 Churchill Place, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5HU www.marketforce.co.uk Tel: 0203 787 9060

**ISSN 2052-5870**

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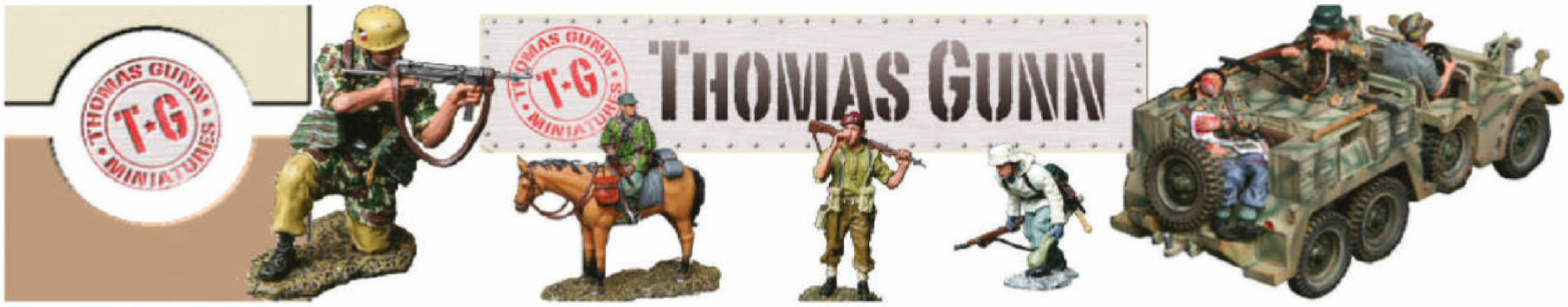
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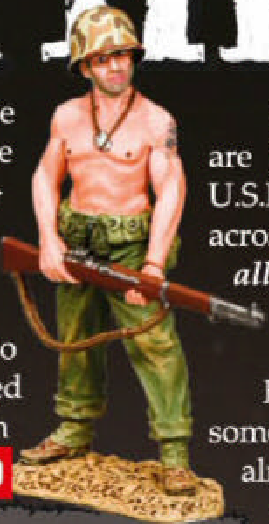

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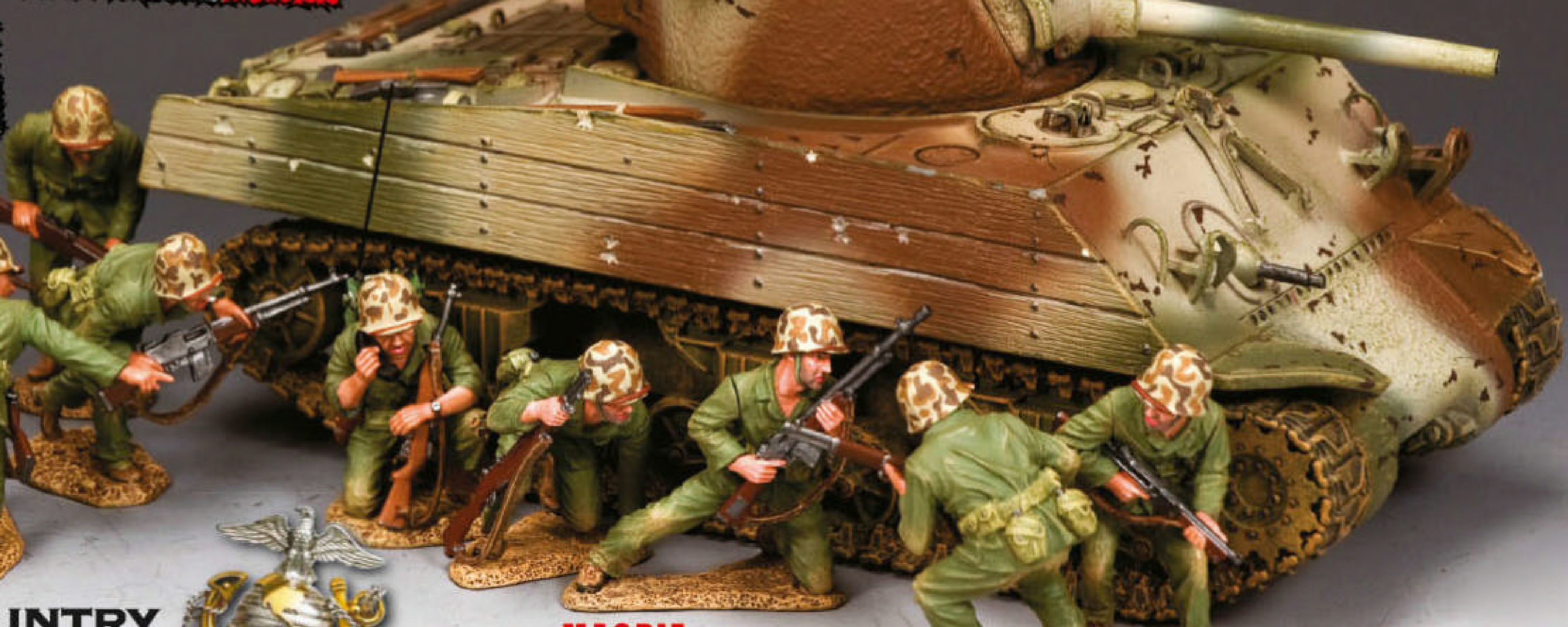

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